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1889

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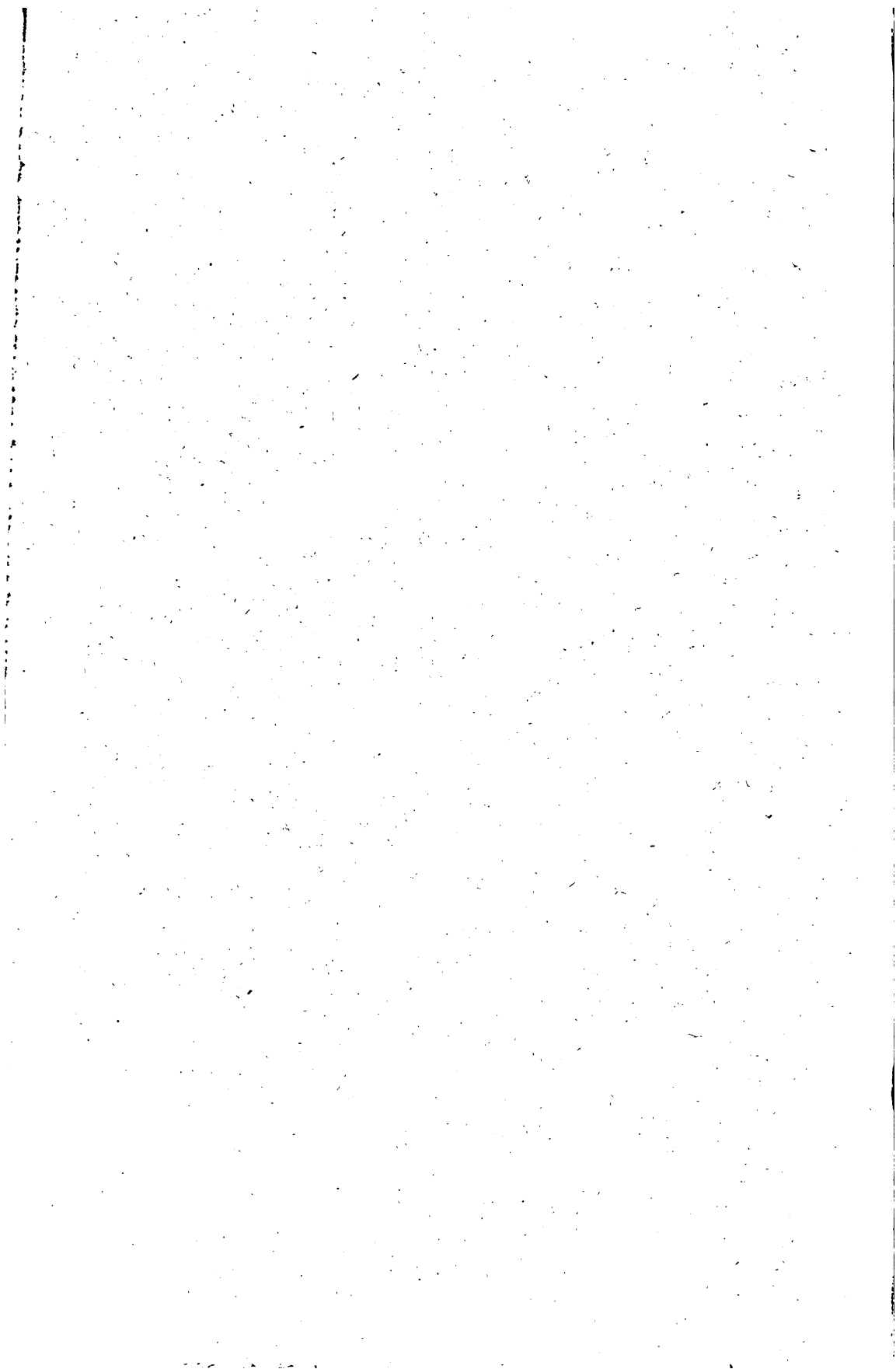
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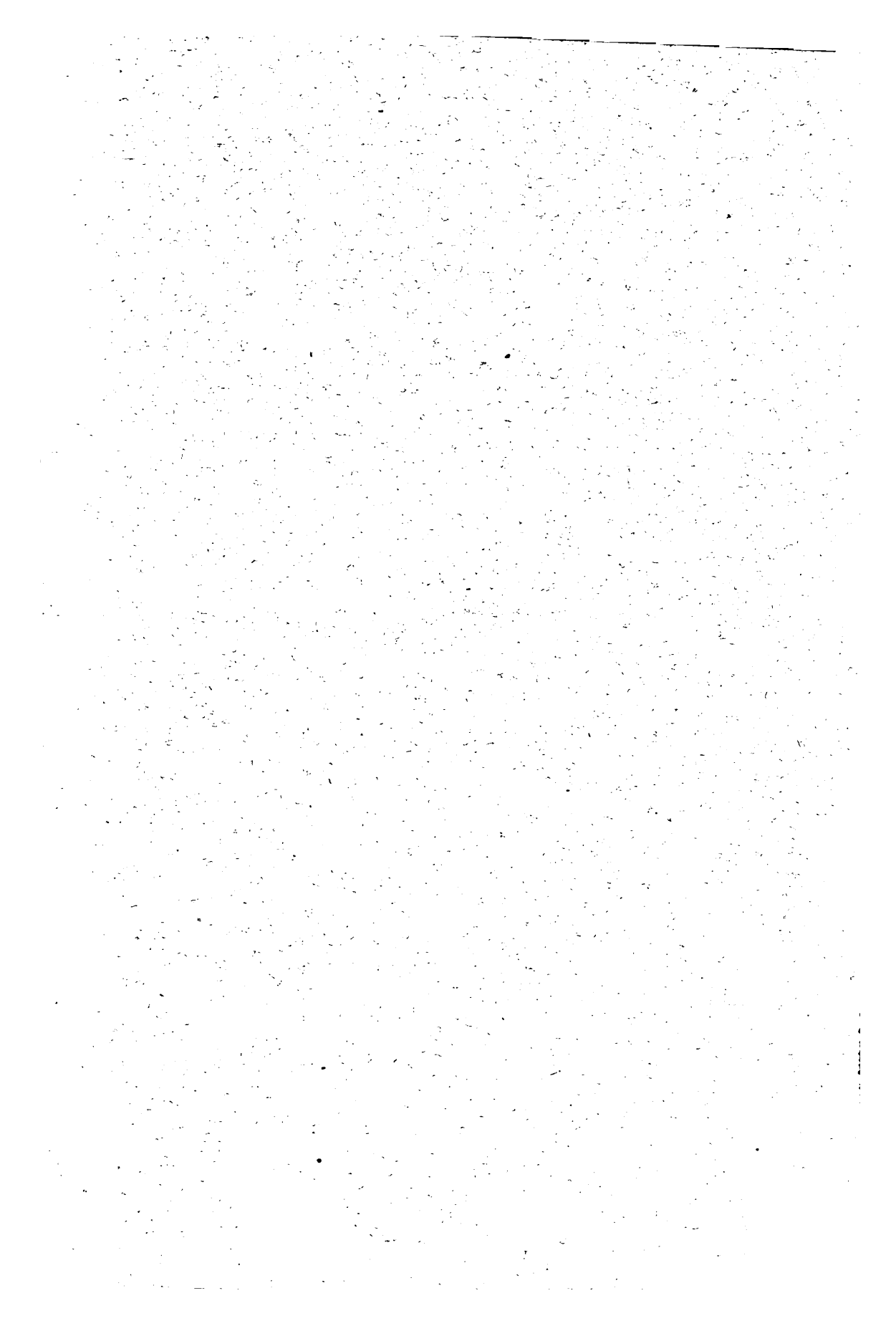
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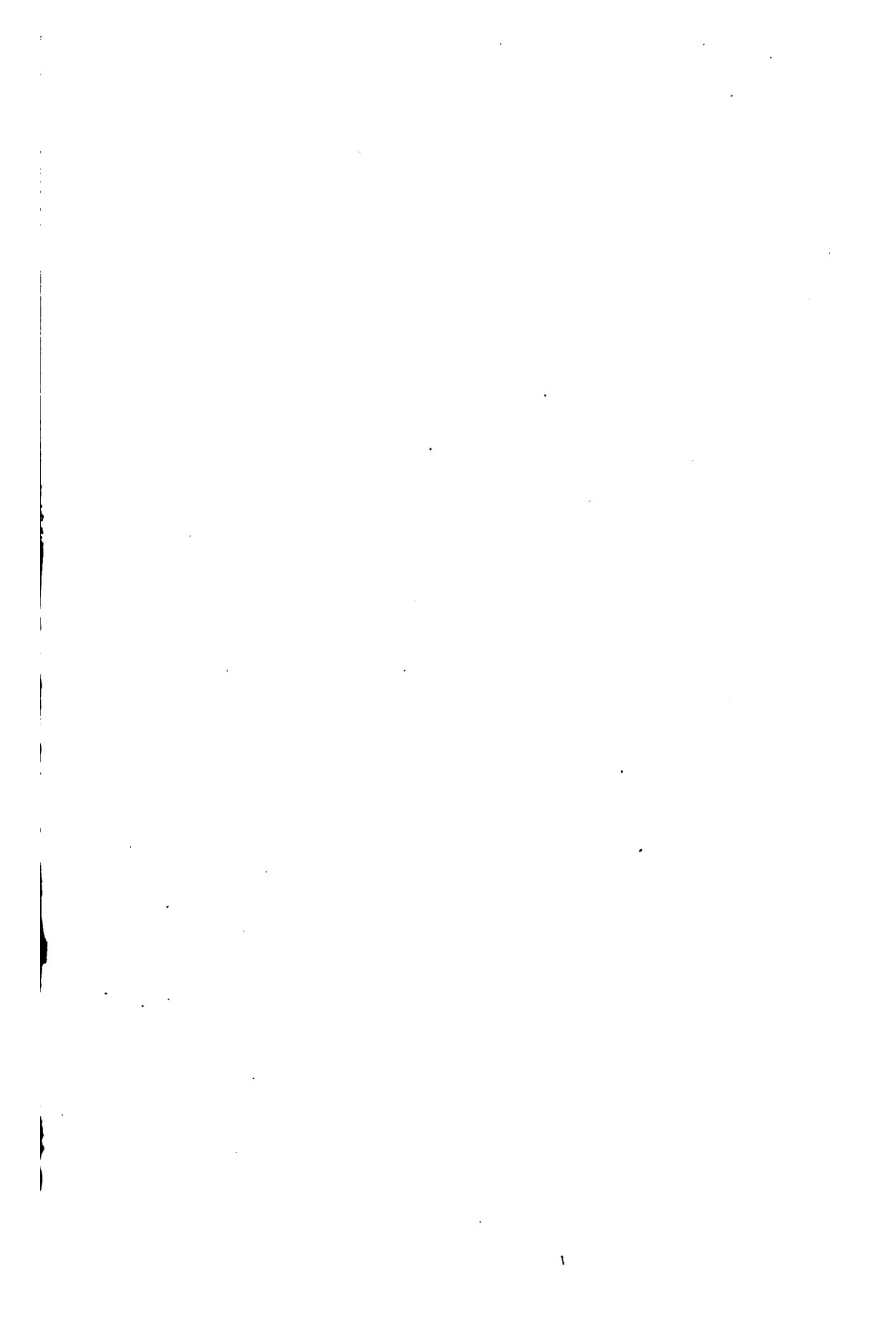
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1889







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WITH A BRIEF HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE MOVEMENT FOR THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH A LIBRARY IN SALEM, AND  
A NOTICE OF THE LIBRARIES NOW IN  
EXISTENCE IN THE CITY.



SALEM, MASS.,  
SALEM PRESS PUBLISHING AND PRINTING CO.,  
1889.



## OPENING ADDRESS.

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*Gentlemen of the City Council and Board of Trustees:*

The Free Public Library, as we have come to know it in late years, is but the result of the processes of evolution. First came thought, the idea to man's mind, then the desire to impart that idea. As time went by, the modes of diffusing the knowledge of man progressed steadily on, until at last that mighty and wonderful invention of an advanced civilization gave to the world the printing press. By it, indeed, the pen became mightier than the sword as the distribution of books became widespread.

Wherever books were found, there, too, was the education to read them. If readers were in a community, there, too, were to be found books; and with books and readers, followed the formation of private libraries.

Next in the order of development were the libraries of universities and institutions of learning, or institutional libraries.

In 1731, Benjamin Franklin, with fifty of his brother mechanics, instituted the Philadelphia Library. He and his associates joined together in procuring books for the joint use of all. Books which they possessed were brought together in one place where they would be accessible, money subscribed, and an agent sent to England to purchase books. Franklin tells us that "at the time I established myself in Pennsylvania, there was not a good bookseller's shop to the southward of Boston."

This joint stock or association library, for the use of subscribers, was the next step in the direction of a public library.

That the state must educate its citizens was very early a cardinal principle in the construction of our form of government, and thinking men and educators saw the great value of a library of good books as an annex to our common-school system. And it is only about fifty years ago

that Horace Mann sought to lay the foundation for free libraries by establishing school district libraries throughout the state. His effort failed, but the idea had taken root.

The endowed library, or that wholly supported and founded by private munificence and generosity, marked the next advance ; and then followed the law in Massachusetts passed in 1851, authorizing the appropriation of public funds, by towns and cities, which has created the free public library of our day.

Here in Salem, though the second oldest among the towns of our Commonwealth, and the second city to be incorporated, it has sometimes seemed strange to those who are not well acquainted with our opportunities and advantages, that a public library has not heretofore been established. To us it is not strange at all. Very many of the public libraries that have been founded since the law was passed in this state have originated by private gift, and comparatively few have been founded by a city or town government, independent of some private act of generosity. With us the need for such a library had not been conspicuous to attract such gifts as in many other communities, for Salem has, from a very early period, contained to a very large extent, the means and the institutions that have met the demands and needs of her population. While other communities in establishing a free library have, as it were, gone aboard a single large vessel to sail the river in their explorations, we have had several vessels for our use, with no end of good yachts and other sailing craft.

We are getting to be an old town—rapidly on the way to three centuries. With such a company of colonists as settled here, who made this old town glorious, and whose descendants are here now, ought we not to expect great inheritances in literature and mental culture and vigor from that sturdy Puritan stock? They came with their books in their hands and while their axes felled the forests and built their log houses, their books built the church and the common school.

There were scholars among them from Oxford and Cambridge, and they not only read books but wrote books. There was Francis Higginson, the pastor of the First Church, "the father and pattern of the New England Clergy," who published a book in 1629, entitled "General Considerations for the Plantations in New England with an Answer to Several Objections," embodying principles of progress and improvement and the education of the poor ; here, too, was Samuel Skelton, the teacher, college-bred, and Rev. John Fiske, "a learned scholar," who took charge of the first grammar school ; and here was first heard the philosophy of Roger Williams, whose learning and great breadth of lib-

eral thought and ideas make it seem as if he were a man of the present rather than of the past time. Roger Williams was a copious author, and John Cotton, too, who drew forth from him his full power of thought and grand ideas on freedom of conscience and toleration in religion.

And what shall we say of Hugh Peters, who took holy orders in the Church of England, and was a lecturer of St. Sepulchre's, London, and who published "Good Work for a Good Magistrate," in 1651, in which he recommends the burning of the historical records in the tower? In 1690 Thomas Maule published a forcible and logical plea for the Quakers in "Truth Set and Maintained," as a means of spreading the gospel, who got himself into trouble by writing books and was indicted for slander of the church and government of the Province. Time does not permit me to mention more, for many were the prolific writers among the colonists. In reading the history of those times it seems marvellous that they wrote and published so much. Leaving aside the question of theological disputes and doctrines that seemed to be their especial delight, there were the strong and logical minds, investigating and searching for truth. Great colony founders were they, engaged in planting those principles here, on this very soil we now tread, upon which our state and nation are founded; and, upon the foundations laid by them, our Republic must rest forever if it will rest secure.

What wonder that the early fathers and mothers of this town should have left the influence of the learning and teachings of old Salem upon their posterity! What wonder that in a later time Salem should have been the centre of a liberal culture and scholarly refinement, and should have contained some of the foremost scholars and thinkers of the day! There were Pickering, the friend of Washington, and compatriot at Brandywine and Germantown, afterwards his postmaster general and secretary of war, and John, his son, the jurist and scholar; Prince, Holyoke, and Bentley; Bowditch, the eminent mathematician; Story, famed wherever law is known and honored; Choate, the most distinguished advocate of New England if not of America; Saltonstall, Rantoul and Hawthorne; Prescott, the historian; Whipple, the brilliant essayist; Felt, the painstaking annalist, and a host of others. Brilliant were these lights, not only of our own sky, but some of them the lights of the nation and of the world. What wonder, too, that institutions of learning grew up here that have become famous and world-wide in their reputation! The church came first, but following close came the school, and then literary and scientific societies and institutions unsurpassed anywhere in the land. With a taste for the pursuit of knowledge thus imparted to our community, and with the first scholars and teachers in the land dwell-

ing here,— statesmen, jurists, philanthropists and eminent merchants whose ships in the last century and the beginning of the present sailed to the Indies and the farther pole and upon every sea, bringing to our port a wealth of knowledge of other lands and institutions,— the very soil and atmosphere of Salem, have been most congenial to the establishing of many institutions of learning, within which, large collections of books and other literature and helps to learning are found that have long since supplied to our people, to an extensive degree, the benefits of public libraries.

About the middle of the last century there was a literary society here called the Social Evening Club, whose members numbered among them judges of the Supreme Bench of the Province, judges of the other courts, merchants whose names forecast the palmy days of the commercial reign of Salem, and scholars who have given a just fame to those days.

William Browne, a lineal descendant of the early Brownes, who did so much in the beginning of our town to advance the cause of education, and who was afterwards Governor of Bermuda, was there ; Rev. Thomas Barnard of the First Church ; William Pynchon, a leading lawyer ; Benjamin Pickman and Timothy Orne, eminent merchants and public spirited citizens ; Benjamin Lynde, Chief Justice of the Supreme Bench of the Province, as was his father before him ; Dr. Edward Augustus Holyoke, a graduate of Harvard, whose distinguished attainments and skill were afterward so famous that to call him a Salem physician was by far too narrow, for America claimed him, and he was rightly called " an American physician ;" they too were among the number.

This club held its meetings weekly at the Tavern House of Mrs. Pratt, located on the east corner of Washington and Essex streets, where the Stearns building now is, and there discussed the questions of the day and literary and scientific topics.

Franklin had founded his Philadelphia library, and in March, 1760, this club met as stated by the record " for the purpose of founding a handsome library of valuable books." A subscription followed, and the Rev. Jeremiah Condy, a Baptist minister of Boston, was sent to England to purchase books, and in May, 1761, the Social Library was put in operation. The number of books was four hundred and fifteen volumes. This was the first of all libraries founded here.

In the Revolutionary war, a Beverly privateer captured, in the British Channel, the valuable scientific library of that distinguished chemist, Dr. Richard Kirwan. It was immediately purchased by citizens of Salem, among whom was Dr. Holyoke, and the Philosophical Library in 1781 was founded on this collection, and afterward the Salem Athe-

næum, to which institution the celebrated Dr. Bowditch acknowledged himself a great debtor and gave the sum of \$1,000.

These two libraries, the Social and Philosophical, were purchased by the Salem Athenæum, which was incorporated in 1810, and which to-day has over 21,000 volumes in its library. Then followed the Essex Historical Society in 1821, the Essex County Natural History Society in 1833, and these two later formed a union, and the Essex Institute was organized in 1848. The library of the Institute contains about 50,000 volumes and some 150,000 pamphlets. Large and valuable private libraries have been donated to the Athenæum and the Institute, and the libraries of these two societies are as rich in quality as in the number of volumes.

By the payment of a small annual assessment the use of the books and rooms of these libraries has been open to our citizens, and always free consultation of the books has been accorded without charge, and the libraries of the Institute and Athenæum have been the loved resort of the student and scholar, not alone at home, but often from abroad.

Beside these, the East India Marine Society organized in 1799, the Salem Charitable Mechanic Association, organized in 1817, the Young Men's Union organized in 1855, the Peabody Academy of Science organized in 1867, and the Salem Fraternity organized in 1869, all have contributed to the city the means and the advantages for mental, literary and scientific culture for every station and walk in life.

Then, too, innumerable fraternal and religious societies exist here, many of which have libraries for the use of their members and Sunday schools, of very creditable size and quality, and pervading the community everywhere are the private libraries of citizens. Probably no city of our population contains so many private libraries of rare and valuable collections of books.

It will thus be seen that Salem has had for many years all and even more than have most communities with their public libraries, and the desire for learning has been stimulated and fostered by these institutions in our midst to as great an extent, in many directions, as even a public library can promote.

But as the state rightly takes charge of the education of our children who are to be the future citizens, so too, as we progress, population changes, books multiply, some good, some bad, and enlightened ideas of the end and aim of education and the duty of citizenship prevail, the city and town have come to see in the public library, supported by the public purse, an institution as necessary to our form of government as is the public school. And in Salem we have now reached that stage.

The first earnest effort put forth by the city government for the establishing of a free public library appears to have been made in 1873. In that year, our present representative in Congress, Hon. William Cogswell, then mayor, recommended in his inaugural message that steps be taken to secure to our city such an institution, and suggested the possibility of uniting the splendid collections of books belonging to the Salem Athenæum, the Essex Institute and the Peabody Academy of Science for such purpose.

Subsequently, in the same year, a long and able memorial from many of our most eminent citizens was presented to the city government favoring such a scheme and the use of Plummer Hall for a library building. At that time the estate adjoining Plummer Hall was for sale and it was urged that the city purchase this property and enlarge the building if equitable arrangements could be made with these societies. As many of the memorialists were connected with the Athenæum, the Institute and the Academy, there seemed no doubt of the favor with which the advances of the representatives of the city would be met by the membership of these societies. A committee was duly appointed and negotiations began. Many meetings were held in the discussion of the scheme, and in an attempt to found a free library, in the administration of which the city and the several organizations united should be represented. As a result, however, of the very earnest effort put forth, two reports were submitted to the city government.

The majority report considering the expense attendant on the project, and the conditions and restrictions which the city would be under, recommended that the matter be postponed to the next year. This seems always to have been a favorite solution of some questions in municipal legislation. It settles something, but what? "Procrastination is the thief of time," and while the report was accepted, the next year appears to have been totally oblivious of its predecessor's desire.

The minority report, however, favored immediate action ; and recommended a plan of consolidation, and the raising of a sum of money by popular subscription in addition to the money to be appropriated by the city.

This report is interesting reading now, for the two members who signed that report are to-day members of the first board of trustees of the Salem Public Library, Messrs. Osgood and Williams, both being then members of the common council, and both of whom have been honored as its president.

I refer thus fully to the proceedings of the city government of that year, as no such interest appears to have been manifested by the city

officials or the public, either before or since, until the year 1886, when a similar effort was again made and great public interest again awakened in a public library.

Individual interest was manifested between these dates, and some members of the city government endeavored to arouse enthusiasm in such a project, but failed to receive the encouragement needed. In December, 1880, Mayor Henry K. Oliver, then closing his fourth year of consecutive service as the chief magistrate of the city, proffered the greater part of his private library as a nucleus of a public library. The acceptance was favored by the committee of the city council to whom the matter was referred, the chairman of which committee was Mr. George R. Emmerton, then president of the Board of Aldermen. The gift was accepted, but as a condition was annexed that a public library should be founded within two years, and in the meantime some suitable place should be provided for the books for public use, the failure of the next city government to do this resulted in the gift being withdrawn in November, 1881.

In May, 1882, in which year I had the honor to be the president of the common council, an order was introduced in the council to consider the advisability of establishing a public library, and a joint committee appointed; but again failure was recorded.

In April, 1885, Mr. Benjamin Barstow, in a communication to the city government, recommended the purchase by the city of the shares of the Salem Athenæum, which was referred to a committee and there stopped.

The uniting of the libraries of the Salem Athenæum, Essex Institute and other societies here in the formation of a free library, seemed to offer to the city such great advantages in obtaining at the outset a very valuable and rare collection of books that it was always a favorite scheme.

The use of Plummer Hall for a library building, which was so advantageously located, also attracted the minds of those interested. In my first inaugural message I said, "While the subject of a free public library has frequently been agitated and discussed, we are still without this great boon to our city. . . . The necessity, however, for a public library here, has not been felt to that extent heretofore as in other cities. With such large and valuable libraries as those of the Salem Athenæum and Essex Institute, although private, have been always in a measure open to the public for reference and have met the needs of a large class of our citizens; while the library of the Salem Fraternity, always free, with several private libraries, has met the demand of another large class. But times change and the demand for a public library which has

been a steadily growing desire, may well receive our attention. If it were possible to unite the existing collections of books and avail ourselves of Plummer Hall for a library building, the establishment of a public library would be accomplished without delay and at no great cost." This part of my message was referred to a joint special committee. The members of this committee were aldermen George D. Glover, Oliver D. Way, and councilmen Stephen L. Whipple, Freeman C. Hersey and William L. Hyde.

The year 1886 may well be said to have laid the beginning of this library which to-day crowns our efforts. Not only was the city government ready and willing to take hold of the project, but a great public interest, as we now remember, was aroused, and earnest efforts were made to bring together not only the libraries of the societies I have named, but others having very important and valuable collections of books. The committee were zealous and active; but, as in 1873, the scheme again failed, but this time, not because of the city government, for in their final report in December this committee recommended a reference of its report and proceedings in the matter to the next city government, "and that early action be taken for the establishment of a public library."

In 1887, I again referred to the subject in my inaugural message, saying "I hope you will take effective steps to establish so important an aid to the culture, happiness, patriotism and intelligence of our people," and immediately a committee was appointed to whom was referred the report of the previous committee. The committee of this year were aldermen John H. Batchelder, Oliver D. Way and William L. Hyde, and councilmen William E. Meade, Albion M. Dudley, Freeman C. Hersey and William L. Welch; alderman Batchelder and councilman Meade being, respectively, president of the board of aldermen and president of the common council. To this committee the mayor was added, and we again went actively to work; but this time to establish a public library as the act of the city alone. Various propositions were discussed and considered, and I have no doubt that the efforts of the committee of that year would have successfully planted the foundations of a public library even had we not received the great help by the generous gift that subsequently made our hearts glad. As I have said, the public interest in the year before had been awakened beyond anything that had been seen for a long time, and the committee felt that the public mind was ready to give encouragement. That this public interest and evident desire for a public library had not gone unnoticed by those who had this city's welfare at heart and were desirous to promote its interests, was

soon made known to the committee; and when the time had come for submitting the matter to the city government they were prepared to advance every measure and secure the legislation necessary to establish this library.

The special session of the city council in joint convention Monday evening, Dec. 5, 1887, will be long remembered as a most important one in the history of our city. On that evening I had the pleasure of presenting to the city council, a communication from Mrs. Mary A. Bertram, Mrs. Jennie M. Emmerton, Mrs. Clara Bertram Kimball and Mrs. Annie Bertram Webb, presenting to the city this splendid estate which is now the home of our library, and which we shall cherish all the more fondly because of its past associations as the home of John Bertram, with all the grateful memories that are aroused by that name. I need not detain you now by reciting the proceedings which followed, as this communication with all the subsequent proceedings of the city council to establish a public library under it, including an act of the legislature, was printed with the city documents of that year, and also in a separate book under the title of "Proceedings relating to the donation of the estate of the late Capt. John Bertram, for a Public Library in the City of Salem."

The city council of 1888 was not much changed in the election from that of the preceding year. The proposed library was still in the hands of its friends, and the work was immediately taken up by the new government. The committee was the same as in 1887 with one exception only: councilman William F. Cass, taking the place of councilman Dudley, who had retired from the government. The trustees were elected, an act of the legislature being first necessary, and the appropriations for remodelling and altering the interior of the building made.

Since the election of the trustees the work of organizing the library has been in their hands, but the money has come from the city government, and this year again the city government has evinced the same public spirit and friendly and earnest interest, by unanimously passing all appropriations asked by the trustees, thus showing their confidence in the Board and their management.

It will thus be seen that the four city governments of 1886, '87, '88 and '89 have all had the very marked distinction of working out the result of to-day.

The selection of a Board of Trustees was an important matter. Perhaps to no one man do we owe so much for the establishing of the library as to the late Mr. George R. Emmerton. His zealous interest in this work we all know, and it was but natural that the public voice should

call him to the work of organizing and preparing this library. The other members elected were Messrs. Thomas F. Hunt, Nathaniel A. Horton, George W. Williams, James A. Emmerton and Charles S. Osgood. This was the first Board of Trustees, the Mayor being chairman *ex officio* as provided in the deed of gift.

Could our friends who have laid down this work and passed on—labors so pleasant to them and so full of promise to us—revisit to-day the scene of their past labors and love, would not the spectacle of the completed work, the fruition of their hopes and unselfish zeal, give to them and us the greatest joy in its contemplation? May we not believe that somehow and sometimes Heaven touches Earth, and though darkened be our vision, the work we do *is seen* in Heaven, and joy in it is there as here?

The vacancies by the decease of Mr. George R. Emmerton and his brother Dr. James A. Emmerton, in the Board of Trustees, were filled by the selection of Mr. David Pingree and Mr. Jeremiah T. Mahoney.

The work of the trustees is before you to-day, and how well they have performed a most difficult and laborious task your own examination can testify. It was no common undertaking. They knew that in the formative period of the founding of a library, that was to be for all future time, a bad beginning could not make a good ending. To begin right was the essential; afterwards to continue would be easy. Everything they would do up to the present moment was a beginning. Upon their work, in every detail, from the construction and arrangement of the building and the selection of books, down to the smallest matter of regulations and rules, this library would rest. They were laying the foundations for a superstructure whose proportions are yet hidden by the veil of the future, and so in the infinite amount of detail, nothing could be unimportant or of careless consideration. They have planned, constructed, prepared, organized and made the Salem Public Library. Its doors are now opened. Henceforth it will be of the people and for the people of this city.

Emerson says "there is a relation between the hours of our life and the centuries of time—the hours should be instructed by the ages and the ages explained by the hours."

How real is that relation to-day! Pointing are the hands of time! one to the unknowable future; the other to the past centuries of evolution, growth and achievement. It is such an occasion as this that calls forth the thoughts in which retrospect and recollection paint upon the canvas of the mind, as with pencil and colors, the glowing imagery of pictures in which we ourselves are seen also, though the last and least, still necessary to make the picture real. They are the pictures of life

in which the years of a single man are but hours, when we gaze for a moment upon the advancing, never-completed work of man through the ages, in which we take our part for a brief season.

A new institution, not young, but old, is added to the glory and renown of our city, mighty in its power, beyond conception in its possibilities, embracing within its walls a world.

I call it old, for it is not the work of a day or generation. The mere collection of books within the walls of this temple of learning, the thought and labor, the mechanic arts and the generous gift, the public fund and the official act,—all that contributed in any way to bring together building and books, are but the blending of the best thought, the noblest philanthropy and the accumulated industry, skill and wealth of the past and present into one grand achievement of the human mind. It is the concentration in the hours of our lives of all the civilization of the past ages.

When Goethe, that prince of German literature, was dying, his last words were "open the shutters and let in more light." All the past history of man is but this call for further light. As generation has succeeded to generation, there has been the unceasing, outstretching desire for further knowledge in arts, science and the laws of life. And we open to-day these doors to this library, filled with the thoughts, the ideas and the history of the human race, that for us and our generation, the light of the soul of man, still brightly shining through all the past centuries, in the illuminated page, may reflect that light upon our time; and we, bringing our tapers to this flame of knowledge, may send some added rays of light into the future years.

The "Moses" is the masterpiece in sculpture of Michael Angelo. It was one of the colossal figures designed by him for the mausoleum of Julius II. For more than forty years it stood in his workshop; but when at last the master surveyed his work completed, so lifelike in appearance, impressed was he beyond control and, rushing up to it, he struck it with his hammer and cried out "Speak to me!" The marble still was dumb, and the marring of the work of a lifetime could not make it speak. Not so with the work we have completed. Open these books and bid Cæsar speak and tell us of his conquests of a world, or Cicero hurl again at Cataline the invective of his famous orations in the Roman Senate, and "Cæsar, the world's great master and his own," and Cicero, "Saviour of Rome," shall be again living Romans at our side. Would we "lunch with Plutarch and sup with Plato," we have but to accept the invitation. We may walk in the groves of Athens, in the Parthenon, on the Acropolis and view the splendid scenes of the age of

Pericles, and talk with Socrates the wise, and listen to the powerful philippics of Demosthenes. And here, too, are Milton, Homer, Shakespeare and all

"The poets who on earth have made us heirs  
Of truth and pure delight, by heavenly lays."

Cromwell in some quiet home will again drive Charles the First from his throne and disperse the Parliament. Washington with his generals cross the Delaware, and Patrick Henry in Virginian Senate rouse the sluggish blood to the heights of patriotic devotion to country, as he cries out "Give me liberty or give me death." Martyred Lincoln will in our presence sign the great Magna Charta that brings emancipation to millions of slaves, and on Gettysburg's field we shall hear him in the grandest oration of modern times. And here too will Grant, greatest among great generals, quietly talk with us of Vicksburg and Appomattox; Sheridan modestly tell the story of that day when—

"He dashed down the line 'mid a storm of huzzas"

. . . . .

and of

"The steed that saved the day,  
By carrying Sheridan into the fight,  
From Winchester—twenty miles away;"

and with Sherman and his army we shall march "From Atlanta to the Sea." Yes, all "kingly spirits" may be our companions and will speak to us here.

Yet in the lowliest cottage "is One Book wherein for several thousands of years the spirit of man has found light and nourishment, and an interpreting response to what ever is deepest in him."

Does not this Book speak to us above all others to-day?

Coleridge says "For more than a thousand years the Bible, collectively taken, has gone hand in hand with civilization, science, law—in short, with the moral and intellectual cultivation of the species—always supporting, and often leading the way."

If, as Carlyle says, "the true university of these days is a library of good books" then, within these walls, the children of rich and poor alike, drinking at the same fountain, may become learned and wise.

But learning and wisdom without virtue may overthrow the temples our fathers have builded and lay in ruin a nation. Over all God reigns. We sow, but the Creator of all things gives the increase. Then, in thankfulness to Him for all the blessings of civilization that have come to this community, as a Christian people, filling our lives with happiness

and prosperity, let His Book, the Book of all Books, be the corner stone of this library.

All true glory rests  
All praise of safety, and all happiness  
Upon the moral law. Egyptian Thebes;  
Tyre by the margin of the sounding waves;  
Palmyra central in the desert, fell!—  
And the arts died by which they had been raised.  
Call Archimedes from his buried tomb  
Upon the plains of vanished Syracuse;  
And feelingly the sage shall make report  
How insecure, how baseless in itself  
Is that philosophy whose sway is framed  
For mere material instruments, how weak  
Those arts and high inventions, unpropp'd  
By virtue."

## APPENDIX.

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### BRIEF HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE MOVEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT BY THE CITY OF A PUBLIC LIBRARY, AND A NOTICE OF THE LIBRARIES NOW IN EXISTENCE IN THE CITY.

The first movement looking to the establishment by the city of a public library in Salem was the action taken by the city government of 1873 on the address of Mayor Cogswell when at a meeting of the board of aldermen, held on the twenty-seventh of January, 1873, the following order came from the common council adopted. Messrs. George W. Williams, Charles S. Osgood and John H. Conway appointed and sent up for concurrence and to be joined :—

*Ordered*, That so much of the mayor's address as relates to a public library be referred to a joint special committee of three from the common council with such as the mayor and aldermen may join.

The board of aldermen concurred in the adoption of the order and aldermen Oliver P. Ricker and William A. Brooks were joined to the committee.

At a meeting of the board of aldermen held on the twenty-sixth of May, 1873, the memorial of Robert S. Rantoul and eighteen others, relative to a free public library, came from the common council referred to the joint special committee on public library and sent up for concurrence. The board concurred.

The memorial was as follows :—

#### *To the Honorable the City Council of the City of Salem:*

GENTLEMEN :—Your memorialists have been much impressed with the need of a free public library in this city. The general considerations which make such establishments of great practical value, are too familiar to be rehearsed. There are in Massachusetts eighty-two towns and cities which have already availed of them under the general provisions of the law. The oldest of these libraries is that of West Cambridge, now Arlington, founded in 1837, while the largest by far is that of Boston, which though but twenty years old has already accumulated 187,000 volumes,—all the other libraries in that city, twenty-six in number, containing but 272,000 volumes.

The natural increase of these collections, taking the state together, averages about ten per centum per annum, and the average use of books is equivalent to the taking out of every book nearly three times during the year. Of course, the size and use of these collections vary materially with the locality, industries and character of populations. The library of Chelsea, one of the smaller and more recent collections, is so generally availed of that the whole number of books is taken out nearly seven times in a twelvemonth, while the more limited collections of many little towns, whose volumes are numbered by hundreds instead of thousands, are evidently contributing quite their full share to the prosperity of the commonwealth. The situation of Peabody and Danvers among our immediate neighbors, is peculiar, because, while they have free libraries, these rest partly, like those of Lawrence, Ipswich and Georgetown, upon foundations laid by individual munificence. But Beverly, in 1855, availed herself of the provisions of the law, to establish, with the aid of a voluntary subscription fund, a library which already claims some 5,500 volumes, and it is much in use.

Of the cities of the commonwealth, Haverhill alone, besides Salem, is without a library free to the public. Fitchburg, Fall River and Lawrence have theirs, and Taunton has one of 12,000 volumes. The Springfield library, made free in 1857, numbers about 31,000 volumes; that of New Bedford, established in 1852, about 30,000; and that of Worcester, dating from 1859, about 25,000 volumes, although there exist in the last city five other libraries, containing 40,000 volumes. Newburyport, in 1854, opened a public library which now numbers about 15,000 volumes, while that of Charlestown, started in 1860, equals it in numbers. Lowell, with four other libraries, has supported a public library since 1844, and returns 16,000 volumes upon its shelves, while our neighbor, Lynn, with six social and other libraries at hand to meet her growing wants, founded a public library in 1862, which now contains 17,000 volumes.

The returns made to the state from the eighty-two libraries, show no diminution in the accumulation of books, nor in the use of them, and your memorialists are forced to conclude that generally, for communities like ours, a free public library is proved to be an unmixed good.

There is nothing exceptional in the condition of Salem in this respect, growing either out of her present situation or future prospects. She has good private and proprietary libraries, and so had a very large number of the eighty-two towns and cities above considered. Excellent as these are, they have been found to be a meagre substitute for the establishment we seek, since they do not provide for that most important

class of readers whom it is the special province of a public library to reach, nor for those whom they do accommodate, so generously or well.

It is, however, to the existence of these very collections of books, accumulated here through so many years, that Salem owes a position in one sense exceptional. It may be doubted if in any other community in the country an opportunity for the immediate opening of a public library of such rare quality presents itself as may be had here, provided the books already accumulated can be availed of as a nucleus therefor. It has been the study of your memorialists to ascertain whether this could be done, and, if so, upon what terms, and what action, if any, was called for on the part of the city.

The library of the Salem Athenæum is one of the oldest and best selected in the country. The names of Bowditch and Story and Hawthorne and Choate, are but a few in the long list of eminent men who have, in the past, drawn inspiration from this full fountain of wisdom and thought. It comprises some fourteen thousand volumes and is contained in a substantial modern structure, centrally located and well adapted for general use. The tenure of this property is such that your memorialists believe it may, if the parties holding the legal estate so determine, be placed at the disposal of the public for the purposes contemplated. If so, probably no better arrangement could be devised. The only qualification to be made to this statement is, that it would not long prove large enough for the wants of a growing public library, with its reading rooms and necessary adjuncts. Fortunately it happens at this time that the lot in the rear of this estate, extending to Brown street and containing some 9500 square feet, is now for sale and can be procured on reasonable terms; and it is believed that, thus enlarged, the Plummer Hall estate would be ample for any contingencies to which we need look forward. Salem is therefore fortunate, above other cities, not only in having a fine fund of books but also an admirable place of deposit for them, ready to its hand, provided the conditions upon which these can be procured for public uses are not unreasonable. What then are these conditions?

It appears that the proprietors of the Athenæum Library control the Plummer Hall estate, within the limits prescribed by the will of Miss Caroline Plummer, and that the interests of the two properties, as related to the matter in hand, are identical. Although no parties have been authorized to bind the proprietors to any proposition, there is ground for hope that they would turn it over with their books for the use of a public library on condition of the purchase of the rear lot above described and the erection, as soon as may be, of a fireproof structure in the rear of the present hall, into which the most precious

treasures of their collection, the loss of many of which could not be repaired, should be removed. Such a stipulation, coupled with such a magnificent offer, cannot be regarded as unreasonable, and the removal of a portion of this accumulated wealth of art and learning from Plummer Hall would release the very space which would be required, as we have seen, for the new uses of a public library.

But the books of the Salem Athenæum are not the only ones of which the city might hope to avail itself, in the formation of such a collection. Plummer Hall contains, besides these, another library of some twenty-six thousand volumes, not less valuable for the care and scholarship with which they have been selected, nor less cherished for their association with the great names of the past,—the library of the Essex Institute. It is enough, in this connection, to name such as Pickering and Saltonstall, Dr. Holyoke and Judge White among its founders, to put its quality beyond dispute. And while this, being the property of a society incorporated for the whole county, could not be made over to the exclusive use of the city of Salem, it might be, and we have reason to expect would cheerfully be, placed on perpetual deposit in the same rooms, for reference and general use, as the famous "Prince Collection" or "New England Library," the property of the Old South Society in Boston, and other valuable collections, have been deposited in the public library of that city.

There is still another source from which the Salem City Library might look for a valuable deposit, on the same terms,—from an institution located here, whose exchanges include the leading scientific publications of the day. The Peabody Academy of Science is already accumulating large stores of useful books, which are at present unavailable for lack of proper reading rooms in which to offer them to the public eye. Your memorialists do not speak unadvisedly when they say that these too may be had on deposit, and without cost to the city except for care and safe keeping.

There are other considerable collections of books existing in Salem, one especially of great merit and value, which we might wish to see incorporated in a city library, but of which your memorialists have no right to speak. Yet we cannot permit ourselves to doubt that eventually the larger views, upon which a well regulated public library is built up and controlled, will discourage the accumulation of all smaller funds of books at private expense in this city, and it would be no matter of surprise if other fine collections too, well worthy of the pride and cost with which they have been maintained, should come to be, at no distant day, an unasked contribution to the general fund.

To secure these important results prompt action is required, in order that the Brown street lot may not pass from the hands of its present proprietors, who hold it for immediate sale, into those of persons indifferent or hostile to the plan in view. While your memorialists are reluctant to urge any expenditure of money upon the city government, they feel that to let slip a chance like this, if it can be secured without exorbitant expense, would be an irreparable folly, a wastefulness of golden opportunity, and a most extravagant economy.

It has been proposed that a portion of any structure erected in the rear of Plummer Hall, be dedicated to commemorative uses, and an apartment designed and set off therein, for relics of the civil war. A fireproof building would be well adapted for such uses, and a memorial room, closely connected with a public library would seem to be well placed. If it should seem to the city government fitting to commemorate the fallen heroes of the war of the Rebellion in this way,—and in so doing they would follow a line of precedents, at the head of which, stands that of Harvard College, tax-payers, as well as voluntary subscribers to such funds as might be needed, would perhaps find a new motive for wishing the enterprise success.

We shall have to ask, then, that you will make it the duty of a committee of the city council, to ascertain forthwith whether the Plummer Hall property and books in question can be had on such terms as we have indicated, and if so, that the city shall proceed to purchase the Brown street lot, in the rear of Plummer Hall, and to receive and open to the public the books therein. And further, that the city shall proceed to erect, as speedily as may seem fit, in view of the importance of the object, and the condition of the public funds, a fireproof structure, suitable for the purposes hereinbefore described, at a cost to the city not exceeding \$ —, provided that, and this appropriation to be strictly upon condition that, the same or a greater amount shall be contributed by subscription from the people.

ROBERT S. RANTOUL,	R. C. MILLS,
EDWARD S. ATWOOD,	JAMES A. GILLIS,
LINCOLN F. BRIGHAM,	WILLIAM MACK,
GEO. WHEATLAND,	N. A. HORTON,
D. B. HAGAR,	SOL. LINCOLN, JR.,
HUGH ELDER,	H. K. OLIVER,
E. B. WILLSON,	HENRY GARDNER,
ALPHEUS CROSBY,	GEORGE BATCHELOR,
S. C. BEANE,	JOHN C. OSGOOD,

GEORGE M. WHIPPLE.

A public hearing was given in the council chamber and at a meeting of the common council held July 14, 1873, majority and minority reports were received from the joint special committee on public library.

The reports are as follows :—

CITY OF SALEM,  
*In Com. on Public Library.*

*To the City Council:*

A majority of the joint select committee to whom was referred that part of the mayor's address relating to a public library and also the memorial of citizens regarding the same, would respectfully report that several hearings have been given to representatives of the Essex Institute, the Salem Athenæum and the Peabody Academy of Science, and that a public hearing which was well attended, was given by the committee. It is evident to your committee that it is possible for the city to effect some arrangements with the above named societies, though at some considerable cost of time and money, by which the valuable books, now in their libraries, could be had for public use, but upon plans considerably complicated and restricted, although the committee have never been able to get from these societies a definite and authorized scheme looking to the public use of their books, the societies claiming, and probably with right, that the city should make the first proposition, which your committee had no power to make.

The committee find these societies possessed of a very valuable collection of books (and a fine and capacious building to contain the same, but which, large as it is, would need to be changed and enlarged for public use) which would form a very excellent and necessary basis for a public library ; but there would be occasion, if it were thrown open to the public, for a somewhat large and expensive addition, almost immediately, in the shape of books of a more popular nature and use, which, whether of more or less usefulness, would still be necessary to meet the expectations of the whole people, and it is for the whole people we must legislate.

So far as the public hearing was concerned the project met with considerable favor and but little opposition, and yet the committee cannot disguise the fact that they find individually, the expense of a library at this time is very much opposed by many citizens. The offer of the memorialists that this should be taken hold of when the public have raised the sum of \$20,000 would look as though the city ought not to lose a probable opportunity to make a beginning in this direction ; and yet in

view of the fact that this sum has not yet been raised, that these libraries are still to remain with us, that a public subscription, as it is hoped, can better be raised another year than at present, that the expense of the project is considerable, probably not less than \$10,000 a year, that we have this year the unusual burden of having to provide for the sum of \$110,000 not of our own contracting, besides our own expenses, ordinary and extraordinary, and with a view not to prejudice the project itself, which your committee believe to be both desirable and necessary, the committee would recommend that the whole matter be postponed and referred to the next city government.

All of which is respectfully submitted by a majority of the committee.

WM. COGSWELL, *Chairman*,

O. P. RICKER,

WM. A. BROOKS,

JOHN H. CONWAY.

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CITY OF SALEM,  
*July 14, 1873.*

*To the City Council:*

A minority of your committee appointed to consider the subject of the establishment of a free public library, having duly considered the matter would respectfully present for your consideration the accompanying order which it seems to them offers to the city an opportunity of obtaining such a library and in connection therewith a memorial hall at a comparatively small expense, provided the provisions of the order can be carried out. In any event it has seemed to them that it is due to those citizens who urged this matter upon our attention that the committee should present some plan to the council for their adoption or rejection, and no plan more favorable to the city than the one we present could be reasonably expected by anyone.

If the citizens are ready to aid the project by first guaranteeing the sum of twenty thousand dollars by subscription it would seem to be a sufficient indication of their feelings in regard to it.

If such a sum cannot be raised then the council will have discharged its duty, and the matter will rest till some more favorable time.

The minority of the committee are of opinion, however, that we should, by adopting the order, give the citizens a chance to express their views on the matter.

Immediate action of some sort is necessary if we would secure the lot

referred to in the order and it is owing to the fact that we propose to erect a fireproof building on that lot that we are able to make any arrangement with the different societies named in the order.

CHAS. S. OSGOOD,  
GEO. W. WILLIAMS.

CITY OF SALEM,

*In City Council, July 14, 1873.*

*Ordered,* That the joint special committee on the subject of establishing a public library be authorized to make the following proposition to the Salem Athenæum, Essex Institute and Peabody Academy of Science in reference to the free use of their several collections of books; whenever the sum of twenty thousand dollars shall be guaranteed by subscription among the citizens at large. That if said societies will place in the hands of a board of thirteen trustees to be composed as hereafter mentioned; the Salem Athenæum, their land, building and library and the Essex Institute and Peabody Academy of Science their collection of books, the same to be open, at once, free to the citizens of Salem under the direction and supervision of said board of trustees, then the city will engage to provide for the care and custody of said books, and the proper charge of said building, heating, lighting and adapting it to the uses of a public library and further that the city will purchase the lot on Brown street in the rear of the lot of the Salem Athenæum, provided the same can be obtained at a reasonable sum, and engage to cause to be erected thereon a fireproof building, suitable for containing a memorial hall and such valuable books from the library as need to be kept in a place of safety, within a period of five years at an expense not exceeding forty thousand dollars, the sum of twenty thousand dollars being contributed by the city and the remainder being guaranteed by the citizens, as before stated, as a condition precedent to making this proposition. The board of trustees, heretofore mentioned, to be composed of the mayor and president of the common council, *ex officio*, one alderman and one councilman to be chosen each year by the city council, and three citizens at large to be chosen by the city council, one each year to serve for a term of three years. The Salem Athenæum, Essex Institute and Peabody Academy of Science to be each allowed to choose two members of the board.

Both reports were laid on the table and at the next meeting of the common council, held on the twenty-eighth of July, 1873, the majority report was accepted and sent to the board of aldermen for concurrence, and the latter board concurred in its acceptance the same date.

No further action seems to have been taken by the city until the meeting of the board of aldermen held on the second of December, 1880, when the following communication was read by the mayor, viz. :

CITY OF SALEM, MASS.,

*Mayor's Office, November 24, 1880.*

*To the City Council of the City of Salem :*

GENTLEMEN :—Convinced that permanent and substantial benefit will be assured to the city of Salem, by the establishment therein of a public library, free to the use of all its citizens, and earnestly desirous that a beginning, however humble, should be no longer delayed, I hereby, for that purpose, proffer through you, to the city, a donation of books (in cases) said books constituting the greater part of my private library.

The conditions attendant on said proffer, are the following, viz. :—

1. The city shall, in some form, obligate itself to provide, at its own expense, and in some conveniently accessible locality, a suitable place for the reception, safe-keeping, and circulation of the books hereby proffered, and of such other books, as, from time to time, may be added thereto, by purchase or by gift.

2. The city shall likewise obligate itself to make for the increase of said public library, an annual appropriation of not less than five hundred (\$500) dollars, with such additional sum as may be needed for the preservation of the books of said library, such appropriations to be made at the time of the making of the usual annual appropriations for the defrayment of the expenses of the city, and to be expended under authority of the board of trustees hereinafter provided.

3. The said board of trustees shall consist of five (5) persons, three of whom shall hold office for one year, and the remaining two for two years, as follows, viz. :—

For one year,

*One alderman*, to be chosen by the board of aldermen.

*One member of the common council*, to be chosen by the common council.

*One member of the school committee*, to be chosen by the school committee ; and these three shall be chosen by ballot.

*Two citizens*, not members of the city council nor of the school committee, to be nominated by the mayor for confirmation by the board of aldermen one of whom shall be appointed at first, for one year, and the other for two years, and thereafter, one shall be appointed, annually, for two years.

4. The board of trustees shall have power to appoint a librarian, holding office at the pleasure of the board, to determine his salary, said salary to be paid by the city, to select additional books, and to make and enforce all needed rules and regulations for the management of the library.

5th. Said library shall be known as the "Public Library of the City of Salem" free to the use of all its citizens under the aforesaid rules and regulations.

And it is earnestly recommended that there be connected, with the library herein contemplated, a *free public reading room*, provided with leading periodicals and newspapers, the entire establishment under the charge of the trustees and librarian hereinbefore named.

"Silver and gold have I none, but such as I have give I unto you."

With earnest expressions of gratitude for many favors shown to me, during a half century of residence, by my fellow-citizens of Salem,

I remain most respectfully,

Their friend and yours,

HENRY K. OLIVER.

On motion of alderman Henry J. Pratt, the communication was referred to a joint special committee, consisting of the president, George R. Emmerton, and Aldermen Robert S. Rantoul and Henry J. Pratt with such as the common council may join, and sent down for concurrence and to be joined.

On the sixth of December, 1880, the common council concurred in the reference of the communication from the mayor concerning a public library, and joined President William A. Hill, and councilmen Charles W. Richardson, Daniel A. Varney and William L. Kinsman to the committee. Its reference was approved by the mayor on the seventh of December, 1880.

At a meeting of the board of aldermen, held on the twenty-seventh day of December, 1880, Alderman Emmerton submitted the following report and orders, viz. :—

CITY OF SALEM,

*In City Council, Dec. 27, 1880.*

*To the City Council:*

The joint special committee to whom was referred the matter of the gift of his private library by His Honor the Mayor, to the city, beg leave to submit their report.

Your committee although decidedly favoring the early establishment

of a public library, thought some changes were desirable in the conditions suggested in the letter of gift, and therefore consulted with the donor.

As a result of this conference the mayor has addressed a communication to the committee (which is herewith appended) in which he offers to the City of Salem the larger part of his private library upon the following conditions :

*First.*— That the city shall within two years from January 1, 1881, establish a free public library.

*Second.*— That during the time intervening between said January 1, 1881, and the establishment of said free library by the city, the books offered shall be under the custody and care of a joint special committee consisting of three members of the city council.

*Third.*— That said books shall be deposited in some safe and conveniently accessible place, to be agreed upon mutually by the donor and said special committee, and for the public use and benefit, under appropriate regulations made and applied by said committee.

*Fourth.*— That said books so deposited, and under such care and regulations, shall so remain during such period of two years from the date designated, unless such public library be sooner established ; and if a free public library for the city be not established within said period of two years, then the said books shall be returned to the donor or his legal representatives in good order and condition, reasonable wear and tear thereof excepted, but

*Fifth.*— If within said period of two years a free public library is established in the city, then the said books shall become, and be a free gift to such library immediately upon its establishment.

Your committee are of the opinion that the offer of His Honor the Mayor should be accepted by the city, and therefore submit the accompanying order and recommend its adoption.

For the Committee,

GEORGE R. EMMERTON,

*Chairman.*

CITY OF SALEM,

*In City Council, Dec. 27, 1880.*

*Ordered,* That the city of Salem hereby gratefully accepts the generous donation of His Honor Henry K. Oliver, Mayor of this city, of the larger part of his private library, upon terms and conditions named by said donor in a communication addressed by him to a joint special committee of the city council bearing date December 27, 1880.

*Ordered*, That whenever the books to be deposited with the city for this purpose, shall become part of a free public library permanently established, they shall, if agreeable to the donor, be designated on each volume as of the donation of Henry Kemble Oliver, Mayor of Salem.

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CITY OF SALEM, MASS.,  
*Mayor's Office, Dec. 28, 1880.*

*To The Joint Special Committee on the communication of the undersigned, offering books for a Public Library.*

GENTLEMEN:—More mature reflection and thoughtful suggestions of your own, have induced a modification of the conditions attendant upon my late offer of books toward the establishment of a free public library in our city.

I now propose to make such donation on the terms herein following, viz. :—

1st. That the city shall within two years from January 1, 1881, establish a free public library.

2nd. That during the time intervening between said January 1, 1881, and the establishment of such a free library by the city, the books offered shall be under the custody and care of a joint special committee consisting of three members of the city council.

3rd. That said books shall be deposited in some safe and conveniently accessible place, to be agreed upon mutually by the donor and said special committee and for the public use and benefit, under appropriate regulations made and applied by said committee.

4th. That said books so deposited, and under such care and regulations, shall so remain during such period of two years from the date designated (unless such public library be sooner established), and if a free public library for the city be not established within said period of two years, then the said books shall be returned to the donor or his legal representatives, in good order and condition, reasonable wear and tear excepted; but

5th. If within said period of two years, a free public library be established in the city, then the said books shall become and be a free gift to such library immediately upon its establishment.

Very respectfully,

Your friend and servant,

HENRY K. OLIVER.

The report was accepted, the orders were adopted, and sent down for concurrence. Came back concurred. The same were approved by the mayor, December 28, 1880.

At a meeting of both branches of the city government held on the twenty-eighth day of November, 1881, a communication was received from Mr. Oliver in which he stated that as no action had been taken on his offer by the city council the same was respectfully withdrawn.

The following order was passed by the common council on the twenty-second day of May, 1882, councilmen Alonzo H. Smith, J. Henry Carey and George G. Russell, appointed and sent up for concurrence and to be joined, viz. :—

*Ordered*, That a joint special committee be appointed to consider and report upon the advisability of the city establishing and maintaining a public library.

The board of aldermen on the twenty-ninth day of May, 1882, concurred in the passage of the order, and aldermen Emery K. Benson and George R. Harris were joined to the committee. The order was approved by the mayor, but it does not appear of record that any report thereon was made by the committee.

At a meeting of the board of aldermen held on the sixteenth day of April, 1885, a communication was received from Benjamin Barstow, Esq., offering his two shares in the Salem Athenæum to the city, on condition that the city buy the remaining shares and convert it into a public library.

The communication was referred to the joint standing committee on public instruction, and sent to the common council for concurrence. On the twenty-seventh day of April, 1885, the common council concurred in the reference. No report was made thereon to the city council.

On the fourth day of January, 1886, the city council passed the following order, viz. :—

*Ordered*, That so much of the mayor's address as relates to a public library, be referred to a joint special committee consisting of two members of the board of aldermen and three members of the common council.

Aldermen George D. Glover and Oliver D. Way, and councilmen Stephen L. Whipple, Freeman C. Hersey and William L. Hyde were appointed as a committee. At the same meeting a committee consisting of aldermen Joseph F. Pitman and George A. Collins, and councilmen Edwin A. Hall, William L. Welch and Thomas H. Norton, were appointed on that portion of the mayor's address relating to a soldiers' monument.

At a subsequent meeting two reports were made in reference to the soldiers' monument by the committee having the matter in charge, neither of which contained any reference to a public library however, as that matter was not before that committee, and on the seventh of June, 1888, the following order was introduced in the board of aldermen, by alderman Oliver D. Way, viz. :—

*Ordered*, That both reports of the committee on soldiers' monument be referred to the joint special committee on soldiers' monument and public library and that the mayor, president of the board of aldermen, and president of the common council be added and that said joint committee be instructed to make special investigation as to the feasibility of combining a soldiers' memorial and public library, also to report suitable locations and approximate cost and to report all information at an early date as possible to the city council.

The order was laid over to the next meeting, and on the fourteenth of June, it was substituted in place of the majority and minority reports of the committee on soldiers' monument, adopted and sent to the common council for concurrence, which board the same day received the same and laid it on the table. On the twenty-sixth of July, 1886, the common council took the order from the table and passed it in concurrence, and it was approved by the mayor on the third day of August, 1886.

On the thirteenth of December, 1886, the following report was submitted to the common council.

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CITY OF SALEM,

*In City Council, Dec. 13, 1886.*

The committee on soldiers' monument and public library to whom was referred the matter of combining a soldiers' memorial and public library have considered said matter, and beg leave to report as follows, to wit :

Since the reports of the committee on soldiers' monument were referred to this committee, such changes have taken place in the relations between the city and others who were at and before that time interested in such a memorial, as to make both reports of little use now as a basis of action.

In the first place, the offer to the city of the funds in their hands, made by the Sons of Veterans, for the erection of a monument, was almost immediately withdrawn after reference to this committee; and a monument has been erected by the Sons of Veterans from this fund and other contributions.

We are also informed that another monument will soon be erected in Harmony Grove, from another fund raised some years since for such purpose.

Your committee are, therefore, agreed that any memorial to be now erected by the city should take some other form than that of a monument, and believe it is feasible to combine such a memorial with a public library, by the erection of a building adapted and suitable for both purposes. We believe further that this would be the wisest course now to pursue and that such a combination would give the greatest satisfaction to our citizens.

As to location and cost of such a building and the design of such a memorial, your committee make no report; but would recommend that the whole matter including this report be referred to the next city government, with the recommendation, that early action be taken for the erection of such a memorial by the city and the establishment of a public library.

For the Committee,

JOHN M. RAYMOND,

*Chairman.*

The report was accepted the same date, the recommendation adopted and sent to the board of aldermen for concurrence, which board on the twenty-second of December, 1886, passed the same in concurrence. The report was approved by the mayor on the twenty-seventh of said December.

On the third day of January, 1887, the following order was passed by both branches of the city council, viz. :

*Ordered*, That so much of the mayor's address as relates to a public library and soldiers' memorial, together with the report on said matters made to the city council in December last, be referred to a joint special committee consisting of the mayor, the president and two members of the board of aldermen, and the president and three members of the common council.

Mayor Raymond, president Batchelder, aldermen Oliver D. Way, William L. Hyde and councilmen A. M. Dudley, F. C. Hersey and W. L. Welch were appointed as the committee.

At a meeting of the city council held on the fifth of December, 1887, a convention of both branches was held in the council chamber, at which the following communication was read by mayor John M. Raymond, viz. :—

CITY OF SALEM, MASS.

*Mayor's Office, Dec. 5, 1887.*

*Gentlemen of the City Council:*

A special session of both branches of the city council has been called this evening for the purpose of first presenting to you in joint convention (which I deemed to be in the most appropriate manner) an important communication that has been confided to me in behalf of the city.

The communication is as follows :

*Salem, Dec. 31, 1887.*

*Hon. John M. Raymond, Mayor, City of Salem.*

DEAR SIR : For the purpose of establishing a public library, the undersigned hereby present to the city of Salem the residence recently occupied by the late John Bertram, located on Essex street, as per accompanying plan, the same to be held by a board of trustees as hereinafter provided, and subject to the following conditions :

A board of trustees shall be appointed by the mayor and city council, to consist of six gentlemen, who shall each be appointed for the term of his natural life ; the mayor of the city shall be chairman *ex officio* of said board ; all vacancies on said board shall be forthwith filled by a gentleman, or gentlemen, selected and appointed by the remaining members of said board.

Said board of trustees shall receive all conveyances of real estate, money, donations and funds that may be delivered to them or into their keeping and control, in trust, to devote the same to the use and purposes, of said proposed library. The librarian and other officers of said library shall be appointed by the board of trustees.

The sum of twenty-five thousand dollars shall be raised by subscription, or otherwise, to constitute a permanent fund, to be placed in the hands of said trustees, the income of which is to be expended in the purchase of books, or other material, in the discretion of said trustees.

The city to appropriate a sum sufficient to meet the expenditures in making such alterations as may be necessary to adapt the building for the use of a public library, said alterations to be made under the supervision of the board of trustees. The city to make an annual appropriation, to meet the current expense of said library, including the salaries of the librarian and assistants, which shall be fixed by said board of trustees, who themselves shall serve without compensation.

That portion of the estate located immediately on the corner of Es-

sex and Monroe streets, shall remain unoccupied as it now is, for the period of thirty years from Dec. 1, 1887.

This offer to remain open subject to its acceptance by the city until June 1, 1888.

Very respectfully,

MARY A. BERTRAM,  
JENNIE M. EMMERTON,  
CLARA BERTRAM KIMBALL,  
ANNIE BERTRAM WEBB.

It was with feelings of pleasure and gratification that I received this communication, and in now presenting it to you I do so in grateful appreciation of an act of generosity and munificence, which I am sure finds a responsive chord in the hearts of all of you, and will call forth the profound gratitude of all the inhabitants of this city.

Our city owes much to the past — much to the noble and philanthropic lives of those whose work here has been ended, but whose good deeds and the beneficent influences of their acts still remain — yet to no one life in later years do our hearts turn with a more lasting and deeper gratitude than to the life of John Bertram.

We are proud of our city, because he was of our citizens, as we recall his upright character and pure benevolence, the public spirit that sought the best interests of this city, and to which he brought such bounteous blessings when he made it his home.

We remember with gladness, his constant care of the poor and unfortunate, — the home he built for aged men, where comfort and peace might be the portion of their last days — the hospital he founded that has ministered to the relief of so many and that has brought sunshine and health again into many a household and made easier to bear the rude awakening and sudden shock of misfortune and painful calamity. His gifts to the city for the aid of the widow and the fatherless and countless private charities, that now come back to our minds — these are all grateful memories to us of him as a citizen and benefactor.

With the same generous hearts and noble desires, his widow and children offer to the city of Salem to-night a gift that will carry into every home within our corporate limits, the sunshine and the wealth of enjoyment that will come with added advantages and increased opportunities of learning.

For the proper consideration of this munificent proposition by the city

council, I have had an order prepared which will be submitted for your action immediately upon the adjournment of this convention.

JOHN M. RAYMOND,  
*Mayor.*

After the convention was dissolved, the following order was immediately passed by a unanimous vote of both branches, viz. :

*Ordered*, That the communication from Mrs. Mary A. Bertram, Mrs. Jennie M. Emmerton, Mrs. Clara Bertram Kimball and Mrs. Annie Bertram Webb, proposing the establishment of a public library and presenting to the city of Salem, for that purpose, the residence recently occupied by the late John Bertram, Esq., be and hereby is referred to the joint special committee on public library, consisting of His Honor the Mayor, aldermen Batchelder, Way and Hyde, and councilmen Meade, Dudley, Hersey and Welch; and that said committee be hereby instructed to confer with the donors and report at as early a day as possible a plan for the acceptance of the gift and the immediate accomplishment of said purpose; and it is further ordered, that said committee prepare suitable resolutions of thanks to the donors for their munificent gift, and report the same to the city government for further action.

The order was approved by the mayor on the seventh day of December.

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At a meeting of the board of aldermen held on the twenty-seventh day of December, 1887, the following report and order were submitted, viz. :

CITY OF SALEM, MASS.,  
*In City Council, Dec. 27, 1887.*

The committee on public library, to whom was referred the communication of Mrs. Mary A. Bertram and others, proposing the establishment of a free public library in the city of Salem and offering to convey to the city for that purpose the mansion house and estate recently occupied by the late John Bertram, located on Essex street, as per plan accompanying same, under certain conditions therein stated, hereby make the following report thereon :—

Your committee have visited and inspected the premises and residence and are unanimously of the opinion that no better or more desirable location could be obtained within the limits of the city for such a purpose. They also find the mansion-house thereon to be highly adapted to the purposes of a public library building, and that the necessary alterations that would now be required to make the building fully adapted for pres-

ent needs and purposes, could be readily made and at no very large expenditure of money, and that whatever changes would be necessary at present, could be made in accordance with some general plan looking to future needs and the growth of the library, and without the loss of present expenditures whenever additions to the present building should be required.

By the offer made to the city the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars is to be raised "by subscription or otherwise," the income to be used for the purchase of books, etc.; and your committee in considering that portion of the proposition are also of the unanimous opinion that the city government should appropriate said sum and issue bonds therefor, and create a sinking fund for the same. By so doing all citizens become contributors to the establishing of the library as a public and beneficent enterprise and all will have an interest therein.

Your committee have therefore, after conference with the representatives of the family offering this gift, had prepared the deed herewith submitted, embodying in legal form the conditions contained in their offer, and the same is now tendered by the grantors to the city; and your committee recommend its acceptance, and the adoption of the accompanying order.

For the Committee,

JOHN M. RAYMOND,

*Chairman.*

*Ordered,* That the proposition of Mary A. Bertram, Jennie M. Emmerton, Annie Bertram Webb, and Clara Bertram Kimball, to convey to the city of Salem by deed, a draft of which accompanies this order, the mansion house and land at the corner of Essex and Monroe streets, in Salem, late the residence of Mr. John Bertram, be hereby accepted for the purpose and in accordance with the provisions of said deed; and that the joint special committee on public library, in the name and behalf of the city, petition the legislature for authority to said city, to issue bonds to the amount of not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars, payable within a period not to exceed twenty-five years, to enable it to carry out the provisions of said deed. And further that said city may be granted any authority necessary to enable it to accept said deed of conveyance and to comply with all the provisions thereof.

The report was accepted and the order was adopted by a unanimous vote and sent to the common council for concurrence, which board on the same date unanimously concurred in their passage. The papers re-

ceived the approval of the mayor on the twenty-eighth day of said December.

On the same date (December twenty-seventh), the following report and resolutions were accepted and adopted by a unanimous rising vote in both branches in concurrence, viz. : —

CITY OF SALEM, MASS.

*In City Council, Dec. 27, 1887.*

The joint special committee on public library, to whom was referred the communication of Mrs. Mary A. Bertram and others, would respectfully report the following resolutions.

For the Committee,

JOHN M. RAYMOND,

*Chairman.*

*Whereas*, The city council of the city of Salem has received and accepted a proposition in the form of a deed of gift tendered by Mrs. Mary A. Bertram, Mrs. Jennie M. Emmerton, Mrs. Clara Bertram Kimball, and Mrs. Annie Bertram Webb, offering to convey to the city of Salem the homestead estate of the late John Bertram for the purpose of establishing a free public library in the city of Salem.

*Therefore Resolved*, That the city council, in accepting this gift, desires to place on record the sincere appreciation of our citizens for this timely and munificent gift, and of the beneficent influences that will accrue to our city from so generous an act.

*Resolved*, That we recognize the incalculable advantages which the establishing of a free public library will bring to the whole city, and especially to the children and young persons of our community, and to those whose opportunities for education and culture have been limited by the necessities and the circumstances of their lives. And we feel that the opportunities for improving the mind and acquiring knowledge, which will be afforded by the founding of such an institution here, will not only be for the present, but also for the future welfare of our city.

*Resolved*, That while we receive with grateful hearts this valuable gift so opportunely and unexpectedly tendered, we are deeply sensible, that, more than words of ours can express, those who have conferred this public benefit will find a greater reward and satisfaction in the knowledge that their beneficent act will be the means of bringing joy and sunshine, and salutary influences into the homes of so many who will partake of the blessings arising from such an institution; and we congratulate our citizens that we have with us those who, from generous

hearts, have so substantially expressed their earnest desire for the welfare and good name of our city, by contributing so munificently to secure to Salem, a free public library.

The same were approved by the mayor, the twenty-eighth of December, 1887.

On the second day of January, 1888, both branches of the city council passed the following order in concurrence, viz. :—

*Ordered*, That so much of the mayor's address as relates to the public library be referred to a joint special committee consisting of His Honor the Mayor, three members of the board of aldermen, the president of the common council and three other members of said council.

Aldermen J. H. Batchelder, O. D. Way, W. L. Hyde, and councilmen F. C. Hersey, W. L. Welch and W. F. Cass, were appointed on the committee.

At a meeting of both branches of the city council held on the twentieth of February, 1888, the following resolve was passed unanimously by both branches of the city council, viz. :—

*Resolved*, That chapter thirty-four of the Legislature Acts of 1888, the same being "An Act to authorize the City of Salem to accept the deed of gift of Mary A. Bertram and others, and to carry out the provisions thereof,"—and a copy of which act is hereto annexed,—be and the same hereby is accepted by the city council.

The act referred to is as follows :—

#### [CHAPTER 34.]

#### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHT.

#### AN ACT

to authorize the city of Salem to accept the deed of gift of Mary A. Bertram and others, and to carry out the provisions thereof.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows :—

SECTION 1. All requisite power and authority is hereby given to the city of Salem, acting by the city council thereof, to accept the deed of Mary A. Bertram and others, dated December twenty-eighth A. D. eighteen hundred and eighty-seven, for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a free public library in said city, and to carry out said purpose in the manner specified in said deed.

SECTION 2. Said city is hereby authorized to borrow a sum not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars to be used for carrying out said

purpose in the manner aforesaid, and it may issue therefor bonds, notes or scrip not exceeding the amount borrowed; said bonds, notes and scrip shall bear on their face the words "City of Salem Public Library Loan, act of eighteen hundred and eighty-eight," and shall be payable at the expiration of a period not exceeding twenty-five years from the date of issue, shall bear interest payable semi-annually at a rate not exceeding six per centum per annum, and shall be signed by the mayor and treasurer of said city. The said city may sell said securities at public or private sale, or pledge the same for money borrowed for the purpose aforesaid, upon such terms and conditions as it may deem proper; or, if the board of trustees provided for in said deed is willing to invest in said bonds, notes or scrip, the fund of twenty-five thousand dollars to be paid to said board by said city, the city may deliver to said board said bonds, notes or scrip with the same effect as if it had paid over to said board the proceeds of the sale of said bonds, notes or scrip, and the trustees shall have the same rights as any other purchaser or purchasers thereof.

SECTION 3. The said city may at the time of authorizing said loan, provide for the payment thereof in such annual proportionate instalments as will extinguish the same within the time prescribed in this act; and when such provision has been made the amount required thereby shall without further order be assessed by the assessors of said city in each year thereafter until the debt incurred by said loan shall be extinguished, in the same manner as other taxes are assessed under the provisions of section thirty-four of chapter eleven of the public statutes. If said city does not make such provisions, said loan shall be subject to all the provisions of section nine of chapter twenty-nine of the public statutes.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its acceptance by the city council of said city.

*Approved, February 13, 1888.*

The resolve accepting the act was approved by the mayor on the twenty-first day of said February.

At the same meeting both branches passed the following order, viz. :—

*Ordered,* That a convention of both branches of the city council be held in the council chamber, on Monday, February 27, 1888, at 7.30 o'clock P.M. for the purpose of choosing six trustees of the public library in the manner indicated in the deed of gift from Mary A. Bertram and others; and that the joint special committee on public library be hereby authorized to consider and report on that evening the names of such citizens as they deem fit to nominate for such position.

On the twenty-seventh day of February, 1888, both branches of the city council passed the following resolve in concurrence, viz. :—

*Resolved*, That the deed dated December 28, 1887, signed by Mary A. Bertram and six others, conveying to the city of Salem a parcel of land with the mansion house thereon, at the corner of Essex and Monroe streets, in Salem, for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a free public library, together with a deed of the same premises dated February 25, 1888, signed by Mary A. Bertram and James B. Curwen, trustees, and which is confirmatory of the first named deed, be and the same are hereby accepted by the city council of Salem in behalf of said city.

The following report was then submitted, viz. :—

The joint special committee on public library, to whom was referred the matter of reporting nominations for a board of trustees of the public library, respectfully present the following names : James A. Emmerton, T. Frank Hunt, Nathaniel A. Horton, James F. Almy, George W. Williams, Charles S. Osgood.

For the Committee,

JOHN M. RAYMOND,

*Chairman.*

The report was accepted in both branches, and a convention was then held in the council chamber as ordered at the previous meeting ; all the members of both branches were present except alderman G. W. Varney, councilmen C. A. Jordan and J. G. Ryan. On motion of councilman D. J. O'Brien it was voted to proceed to ballot for trustees of the public library and Messrs. O. D. Way, D. J. O'Brien and John J. K. Coker were appointed a committee to receive, sort and count the votes. Councilman J. J. K. Coker nominated William M. Hill ; councilman W. F. Martin nominated Francis H. Lee ; alderman U. R. Williams nominated William P. Andrews.

A ballot was taken with the following result, viz. :—

Whole number of ballots, 28 ; necessary to a choice, 15. John Robinson had 1 ; W. P. Andrews, 1 ; D. B. Hagar, 1 ; R. S. Rantoul, 1 ; C. F. Pousland, 1 ; F. H. Lee, 3 ; W. M. Hill, 10 ; J. F. Almy, 16 ; C. S. Osgood, 17 ; Geo. R. Emmerton, 20 ; J. A. Emmerton, 21 ; N. A. Horton, 22 ; G. W. Williams, 26 ; T. F. Hunt, 28 ; and Messrs Charles S. Osgood, George R. Emmerton, James A. Emmerton. Nathaniel A. Horton, George W. Williams and T. Frank Hunt were declared to be elected. On motion of councilman W. L. Welch the election was made unanimous by a rising vote. The convention was then dissolved and the mayor and aldermen returned to their chamber.

At a meeting of the common council held on the fourteenth of May, 1888, the following communication was received, read and sent to the board of aldermen, viz. :—

CITY OF SALEM, MASS.,

*Mayor's Office, May 14, 1888.*

*To the City Council:*

GENTLEMEN :— By vote of the trustees of the public library, I have the honor to communicate their request that the sum of \$25,000, which by the terms of the deed of gift is to be appropriated by the city for a permanent fund, shall be paid to the trustees, by the issue to them of one bond of the city of Salem, payable in not less than twenty years, bearing interest semi-annually at the rate of six per cent. per annum.

Respectfully,

JOHN M. RAYMOND,

*Chairman.*

At the same meeting the following report and orders were submitted, viz. :—

CITY OF SALEM, MASS.,

*In City Council, May 14, 1888.*

The joint special committee on public library, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 34 of the acts passed by the legislature of Massachusetts in the year 1888, the same being entitled "An Act to authorize the City of Salem to accept the deed of gift of Mary A. Bertram and others, and to carry out the provisions thereof," would respectfully report the accompanying orders. Said orders embody the request of the board of trustees and have been submitted to and considered by the joint standing committee on finance and appropriations and both committees recommend the adoption of the same.

For the Committee,

JOHN M. RAYMOND,

*Chairman.*

*Ordered*, That the sum of twenty-five thousand (\$25,000.00) dollars be and is hereby appropriated to be paid to the trustees of the public library as a permanent fund under the provision of the deed of gift to the city of Salem by Mrs. Mary A. Bertram and others. The above amount to be raised by loan for which an order is to be offered.

*Ordered*, That the sum of seven hundred and fifty (\$750.00) dollars be and hereby is appropriated for payment of interest on city of Salem public library loan for six months ending October 1, 1888. Said amount to be added to appropriation for municipal loan interest.

*Ordered*, That the city treasurer, under direction of the joint standing committee on finance and appropriations be hereby authorized and directed to prepare and issue a bond of the city of Salem to the amount of twenty-five thousand (\$25,000.00) dollars to be known as the "City of Salem Public Library Loan, Act of eighteen hundred eighty-eight," in the name of and to the trustees of the city of Salem public library, said bond to be dated April 1, 1888, payable in twenty years therefrom, and to bear interest from date at the rate of six per cent. per annum payable semi-annually the first day of April and October, and to be signed by the mayor and city treasurer.

*Ordered*, That in addition to the payment of the interest there shall be raised by taxation annually, beginning with the fiscal year 1889, the sum of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars on the bond as herein authorized which sum shall be paid to the commissioners of the municipal loan sinking fund and shall be invested by them according to law to be applied to the payment of the principal of said bond.

The common council accepted the report, adopted the orders, and sent the same to the board of aldermen for concurrence, the last two orders being adopted by a vote of twenty-one yeas, no nays, three members absent.

On the twenty-fourth of said May the papers received concurrent action by the board of aldermen, the last two orders being passed by a vote of seven yeas and no nays. The mayor approved the same on the twenty-sixth of May, 1888.

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At a meeting of the common council held on the eleventh of June, 1888, the following communication was received, read and sent to the board of aldermen, viz. :—

CITY OF SALEM, MASS.,

*Mayor's Office, June 11, 1888.*

*To the City Council, City of Salem:*

GENTLEMEN: The board of trustees of the public library would respectfully request the following appropriations for their department.

For alterations of building in accordance with plans accepted by trustees,	\$10,000 00
For library furnishings, fuel, light and sundries,	1,650 00
For salaries and extra assistants in starting the library, for present fiscal year,	1,350 00
For books for stocking library,	10,000 00
Total,	<hr/> \$23,000 00

The above appropriations are computed exclusive of the income from the "Read Fund," which the trustees understand will be available for the purchase of books.

Respectfully,

JOHN M. RAYMOND, *Chairman.*

The following report and order were passed at the same meeting and sent to the board of aldermen for concurrence, viz. :—

CITY OF SALEM,

*In City Council, June 11, 1888.*

The committee on finance and appropriations respectfully submit the following order and recommend its adoption.

For the Committee,

JOHN M. RAYMOND, *Chairman.*

*Ordered,* That the sum of twenty-three thousand dollars be and hereby is appropriated to be expended under direction of the trustees of the Salem public library as follows :—

For alterations of building,	\$10,000 00
“ library furnishings, fuel, light and sundries,	1,650 00
“ salaries and extra assistants for present fiscal year,	1,350 00
“ books for stocking library,	10,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$23,000 00

On the twentieth day of said June, the board of aldermen received said communication and the report and order were passed in concurrence, and received the approval of the mayor on the twenty-second day of said June:

At a meeting of the common council held on the twenty-seventh day of August, 1888, the following communication was received, viz. :—

*Salem, Aug. 27, 1888.*

*To the Honorable the City Council of the City of Salem:—*

The trustees of the Salem public library beg to inform your body that the proposed alterations of the Bertram House exceed the estimate originally handed you several thousand dollars. They therefore request that the sum of five thousand dollars be transferred from the book fund to the building fund. This sum will, they think, be sufficient to enable them to proceed and carry out the alterations as planned and still leave enough of the book fund to cover the requirements of the present year.

JOHN M. RAYMOND, *Chairman.*

The following order was then passed and sent to the board of aldermen for concurrence, viz. :—

*Ordered*, That the sum of five thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars be and hereby is transferred from the appropriation for books for public library to the appropriation for alteration on building.

The board of aldermen on the same day passed the order in concurrence, and it received the approval of the mayor on the twenty-eighth day of said August.

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At a meeting of the board of aldermen, held on the twenty-fourth day of October, 1888, the following communication and order were submitted, viz. :—

CITY OF SALEM, MASS.,  
*Mayor's Office, Oct. 24, 1888.*

*To the Honorable the City Council:*

GENTLEMEN: The board of trustees of the public library would respectfully request that such of the book-cases not needed for use at the city hall, lately containing the books of the teachers' library, be transferred to the custody of the trustees of the library, for use therein.

For the Board of Trustees,

JOHN M. RAYMOND, *Chairman.*

*Ordered*, That the committee on public property be and hereby are empowered to transfer to the board of trustees of the Salem public library such of the book-cases lately containing the books of the teachers' library as are not needed for the present use of the city.

The order was adopted and sent to the common council for concurrence, which board concurred in its passage on the twelfth day of November, 1888, and the same was approved by the mayor the fourteenth of November, 1888.

The following order was passed by the board of aldermen on the nineteenth of December, 1888, viz. :—

*Ordered*, That the sum of five thousand dollars be and hereby is appropriated for the purchase of books for the Salem public library, the same to be expended by and under the direction of the board of trustees.

The common council concurred in its passage on the twenty-fourth of December, and it was approved by the mayor on the thirty-first of said December.

The city council in passing the annual appropriation order for the several departments for the year 1889, included an appropriation of

\$23,000.00 for the public library, and the appropriation was approved by the mayor the third of April, 1889.

At a meeting of the board of aldermen held on the eighteenth of June, 1889, a communication was received from the trustees of the public library inviting the members of the city council to inspect the library building on Wednesday, June twenty-sixth, at four o'clock P. M. The invitation was accepted, and the common council concurred therein on the twenty-fourth day of said June.

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## LIBRARIES IN SALEM.

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### SALEM ATHENÆUM.

The Salem Athenæum was incorporated March, 1810. Its conception was suggested, undoubtedly, by the Boston Athenæum, organized some three years earlier. The charters of the two institutions are in many respects similar, the leading objects of both being the promotion of literature, the arts and sciences. The Athenæum purchased the social and philosophical libraries.

The first movement for the establishment of the social library was a meeting of gentlemen at the Pratt tavern, on Monday evening, March 31, 1760, for the purpose of "founding a handsome library of valuable books, apprehending the same may be of very considerable use and benefit under proper regulations." A subscription was opened, funds obtained, and Rev. Jeremiah Condry, a Baptist minister of Boston, being about to visit England, was employed to purchase the books. On their arrival, a meeting of the subscribers was held May 20, 1761, of which Benjamin Pickman was moderator and Nathan Goodale, clerk. The social library was thus put in operation. The books imported, with those given by members or otherwise procured, amounted to 415 volumes. The society was incorporated in 1797. It may be regarded as the pioneer of all the institutions established in this place for the promotion of intellectual culture.

The philosophical library was founded in 1781 by the purchase of the library of Dr. Richard Kirwan, a distinguished chemist, which was on board a schooner captured in the English channel and brought into Beverly. The following books may be specified: Transactions of the Royal Societies of London and Edinburgh and Royal Irish Academy, 38 vols; Memoires de l'Academie Royale des Sciences, 1661-1699, Paris, 14

vols. ; *Memoires of the French Institute*, *Tilloch's Philosophical Magazine*, *Repertory of Arts and Manufactures*, *Miscellanea Berolinensia*, 7 vols., *Bernoullii Opera*, 9 vols., *Boyles' Works*, *McLaurin's Fluxions*, *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 20 vols. ; *Histoire de l'Academie Royale des Sciences*, 1699-1761, 63 vols. ; *Buffon, Histoire Naturelle*, 15 vols.

The Athenæum rooms in Central building, Market (now Central) street, were opened to the proprietors on Wednesday, July 11, 1810, with a goodly collection of books upon the shelves, duly arranged and properly classified.

In April, 1815, the library was removed to rooms in Essex place ; in 1825, to rooms over the Salem bank ; in 1841, to Lawrence place, and in April, 1857, to Plummer Hall, the present resting place for this valuable and increasing collection of books.

The present number of volumes is about 19,500 ; these have been principally obtained by moneys arising from the sale of shares and the annual assessments and subscriptions, although many valuable works have been received as donations from the friends of the institution ; among these may be mentioned eighty-three volumes of documents published by the "Record Commission," presented by the British government ; "Audubon's Birds of America," from N. Bowditch, J. I. Bowditch, William Pickman, Joseph Peabody, N. Silsbee, S. C. Phillips, D. A. White, Benj. Pickman, D. L. Pickman and Miss Susan Burley ; Bowditch's "Translation of the *Mécanique Céleste* of La Place," from the translator ; "Histoire de l'Academie Royale des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres," etc., 17 vols. ; and "Academie Royale, etc., *Memoires de Literature*," 59 vols., from Theodore Lyman of Boston ; besides other valuable books from Edwin Bartlett, Ernestus Augustus Plummer, Joseph Augustus Peabody, John Pickering, Benjamin Merrill, Susan Burley, Mehitabel Higginson and others.

Additions to the library by purchase, the annual average for the past ten years, 240 vols., on the following subjects : theological, 19 ; scientific, 27 ; biographical, 23 ; geographical, 19 ; poetry and art, 17 ; miscellaneous, 24 ; foreign literature, 12 ; fiction, 49 ; periodicals bound, 50.

The average circulation per annum is 5228 volumes : theological, 213 ; political, 28 ; scientific, 280 ; biographical, 167 ; geographical, 241 ; miscellaneous, 263 ; historical, 187 ; literary, 461 ; art, 121 ; fiction, 2106 ; serials in number, 926, and in bound volumes, 235.

Number of shares, 100. Each share entitles the proprietor to take from the library four books at one time. Books which have been in the library one year can be retained four weeks ; if less than that time, two weeks ; recent periodicals in numbers, one week.

Persons, not proprietors, approved by the trustees, may have all the privileges of proprietors in the use of the books for one year, on the payment of one dollar in addition to the annual assessment, which is determined at the annual meeting. The assessment for several years past has been five dollars.

All books must be returned to the library on or before the first Wednesday in May and during the interval between that date and the annual meeting, which occurs on the Wednesday preceding the last Wednesday in May, the library is closed for the examination of the books and for needful cleaning and repairs. The rooms are opened and the books circulated on the day after the meeting, unless otherwise directed by order of the proprietors then adopted.

A share in the Athenæum entitles the holder to consult the books of the Essex Institute.

#### ESSEX INSTITUTE.

The Essex Institute was organized, under an act of incorporation granted by the legislature of Massachusetts in February, 1848, on the first of March following.

The Institute accepted the proposals of the proprietors of the Salem Athenæum to occupy rooms in Plummer Hall, April 10, 1857. The library and various collections were removed thither as soon as the shelving and cases were prepared for their reception. The several departments of the museum were arranged on the first floor and were well represented; in several of the classes of the animal kingdom, the collections were inferior to but one or two others in the country. The specimens in several of the classes were arranged and identified and catalogues commenced. In consequence of a liberal use of its rich supply of duplicates, the Institute became the recipient of large and valuable collections from scientific institutions and individuals both in this and foreign countries.

These various scientific collections, containing some 140,000 specimens, are deposited in the East India Marine Hall, in the custody of the trustees of the Peabody Academy of Science according to terms of agreement signed May 29, 1867, by the contracting parties.

All contributions of specimens in natural history, which have since been received by the Institute, either by donation or otherwise, have been likewise deposited with the trustees above named.

The library of the Institute numbering upwards of 50,000 volumes and 100,000 pamphlets now occupies the first floor of Plummer Hall and

the upper stories of the Daland House ; the several rooms being devoted to the various subjects.

The second story of the Daland House contains, on its western side, the historical department comprising 2,284 volumes of history, 1,271 volumes of biography, 1,037 volumes of travels, 190 volumes of genealogies, a library room with a collection of library reports and catalogues—on its eastern side, literature and the arts, etc., comprising an art library of 794 volumes, an unique collection of works relating to the country of China, numbering 713 volumes, and 4,041 volumes of classical and general literature.

A specialty of the Institute is its collection of material relating to the history of Essex County and these works including volumes, pamphlets and newspapers are on the same floor. There is also a nucleus of a war library.

The two pleasant reading rooms are well supplied with newspapers and magazines, dictionaries and encyclopædias.

The third floor, western half, is devoted to works relating to religion and theology, and the eastern to science where is deposited a large collection of the transactions and publications of scientific societies both of this country and abroad. One of the rooms on this story contains the collection of directories and another the centennial library.

Fireproof rooms in each story contain material of extreme value such as log-books and sea journals, manuscripts, coins, paper currency, extra-illustrated works, rare editions, etc.

Plummer Hall is intended for books on sociology in its various subdivisions, newspapers, and a large collection of pamphlets.

The circulation of the library is very small as it is designed mainly for reference and the popular works for the general reader are few in number.

Among the valuable features the library contains, are :—

Very complete collections of the legislative and official publications of Massachusetts from the earliest dates, as well as of several other states of New England and of the Union at large.

Full files of newspapers possessing to the antiquary, the historical student and the conveyancer, a value hardly to be exaggerated. These include the Salem Gazette, Register and Observer, Lynn Reporter, Danvers Courier, Peabody Press, Boston Advertiser, Post and Journal, the National Intelligencer, Liberator, Anti-Slavery Standard, Christian Register, and the "Ny Gazety Malagasy"—the only journal ever printed in the Island of Madagascar—with less complete files of the New York Post, Tribune and Herald, Commercial Advertiser, Inde-

pendent, *Columbian Centinel*, *Boston Transcript*, *Pennsylvania Packet* and *Philadelphia Aurora*.

A copy of Audubon's *Birds of America*, the gift of the late Mrs. Eliza L. Rogers, of Salem.

Copies of the late J. Fisk Allen's splendidly illustrated folio monograph on the great water lily of the Amazon, the *Victoria Regia*.

A large paper copy of the rare folio *History of the North American Indians*, with biographies and hand-colored portraits of one hundred and twenty leading chiefs, the gift of Mrs. Susan Burley Cabot of Salem. This great collection, in twenty parts, was issued to subscribers only, between 1832 and 1844; and the pictures being copied from originals in oil, procured at great cost by the war department and now lost in the burning of a wing of the Smithsonian Institute, have become unique and valuable.

Some eight thousand volumes of English, Greek and Latin classics selected for the private library of the donor, the late Judge White, first president of the Essex Institute.

A collection of some three hundred Bibles and parts of Bibles of curious antiquity, including one, doubtless the oldest book in Essex County, dated before the discovery of America, in the year 1486, a well preserved copy brought from a Carmelite Monastery in Bavaria and presented to the Institute by Rev. J. M. Hoppin, Oct. 2, 1858.

A royal folio work on the Mexican war, published in 1857, with descriptions of each battle and twelve finely colored plates of the principal conflicts, done at Paris, the gift of Benj. W. Stone, Esq., of Salem.

Four hundred log-books or sea-journals, with shipmasters' instructions and correspondence, a part of them deposited in the East India Marine Museum, by members of the famous fraternity of shipmasters which established that collection, and many others detailing privateering cruises in the two wars with England, and every sort of daring and exciting venture.

The most extensive collection of city directories from all parts of the world, and State Registers and College Catalogues of New England, to be found anywhere.

The Institute possesses, besides the works of art here catalogued, many rare and choice engravings and prints; a most interesting accumulation of old maps and sea-charts; large and well-arranged collection of coins and medals; a series of very valuable autographs; and the best existing collection of relics and curiosities illustrative of the history, characteristics, arts and industries of Essex County.

The historical relics are placed on the first floor of the Daland House as are also the larger number of portraits of distinguished individuals.

## THE SALEM FRATERNITY.

In October, 1868, some gentlemen of Salem being in the city of New York, heard there from a citizen of Providence, R. I., an interesting account of the "Union for Christian Work," then in successful operation in that city. Soon after, a Salem gentleman visited the rooms of that institution in Providence and observed its methods with reference to trying a similar experiment in his own city.

On February 7, 1869, Mr. Alfred Stone of Providence, formerly a resident of Salem, by invitation addressed a meeting at the East Church, explaining the working of the Providence Union. The next evening a few persons came together in the parlor of Benjamin H. Silsbee, Esq., to confer upon the matter further. Other meetings followed at the same place, and resulted in the formation of the Salem Fraternity, under a constitution which states the purpose of the organization to be "to provide evening instruction and amusement" for such of our population as "being confined to their work during the day need recreation at the close of their labors."

The experiment fairly began on April 21, 1869, on which evening, the western range of rooms on the second floor of Downing's Block, 175 Essex street, was opened for the purpose from front to rear. The place was well chosen; central, accessible, attractive in its principal rooms, while the thoroughfare of the Essex street promenaders led directly past its door. The front and main room was assigned to amusements. Large, well-warmed and lighted, the walls hung with pictures, it was suitably furnished with tables and chairs and a considerable variety of games. The rooms designated as amusement, reading, school and work room, on the accompanying plan were those first opened.

The library began with a few shelves of books, miscellaneous and unselected, in a small, back room, from which now and then a boy or girl took a volume, usually much beyond his or her comprehension, as they might take home a puzzle, to see if they could make anything of it; and, probably often, with about the same result. But they always brought the book back, and often tried another, perhaps thinking if they could extract but small entertainment from the first one, a second might yield better.

There are now 4221 volumes in the library; 500 for reference only, the rest for circulation, numbering 3721 volumes. The takers of books number 1107. In the year 1876, there were eighty-eight contributors of books; number of volumes added 570. The increase in the size of the library, and the greatly increased use of it, have made necessary migration from room to room, until it has reached its third station, where it

has fair accommodations. This library has been gathered by gift wholly.

The takers of books are divided nearly equally between the two sexes.

Cards, entitling the holder to take books, are given to all applicants, whose trustworthiness for their right and honest use is vouched for by any well-known citizen.

The number of books lost is very small, comparing favorably with all known similar institutions in this respect. Last year at the annual recall and inspection, the number was twelve.

The long line of book-takers, who come nightly to get something for home reading, does not tell all that the Fraternity does to provide reading for the people. Its reading room is supplied with the Salem papers by the favor of their publishers, and from some of their offices come, besides, many of their most desirable exchanges: several daily and weekly newspapers, pictorial weeklies, religious, scientific and literary periodicals.

In 1875 the Fraternity became incorporated under the statutes of Massachusetts, that it might be able to hold and administer larger funds, and that its permanence and efficiency might be the better assured.

#### PEABODY ACADEMY OF SCIENCE.

The library of the Peabody Academy of Science contains about five thousand volumes and numerous pamphlets, obtained chiefly through the exchanges of the publications of the Academy since 1867. It consists of the publications of scientific institutions, both in Europe and America, the scientific publications of the United States government, and such works of reference on botany, zoölogy, mineralogy, ethnology, etc. (obtained by purchase) as are required for the arrangement of the museum.

The books are not intended for circulation, but any student from Essex county may have free use of them, under proper restrictions, at the rooms of the Academy.

*The Salem Charitable Mechanic Association* was organized Oct. 18, 1817. Its library contains upwards of 5000 volumes for the use of its members and their families,—and is open on Saturday evenings of each week for the delivery of books.

*The Fraternity Lodge*, organized Nov. 18, 1846, has a library of over a thousand volumes of well-selected books.

*The Normal and High Schools* have each a library adapted to their special needs.







HELIOTYPE PRINTING CO.,

LIBRARY BUILDING AND GROUNDS.

BOSTON, MASS.

**DESCRIPTION**  
**OF THE**  
**SALEM PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING AND GROUNDS.**

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The Salem library building is on the corner of Essex and Monroe streets, and is surrounded with an ample area of land cultivated as a lawn, on which there are a fountain and a majestic elm tree. The Bertram house was built in 1855.

The trustees came into possession of the Bertram mansion in April,

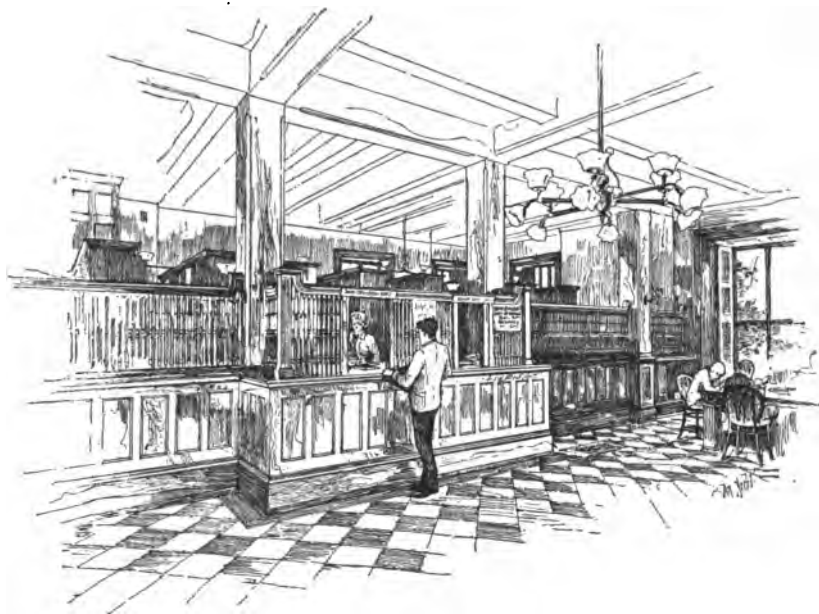


**MAIN STAIRCASE.**

1888, and very soon after they began to consider the matter of necessary alterations to adapt the building to its new use. They were at first of the opinion that the necessary alterations could be covered by an expense of from \$6,000 to \$10,000. They invited every Salem architect and one or two Boston architects by whom Salem men are employed, to submit what seemed to each the most suitable plans within the limits of these

figures. It was not the intention to accept the lowest figures, but to take that combination of convenience and price which seemed upon the whole to be best. Considering the range of price given the difference in estimates was not so great as might have been expected. The plans finally accepted were those of Andrews & Jaques, Boston. On looking about and finding the experience of other libraries, the trustees thought it best to put the building in proper condition at the outset to answer any probable requirements for many years, and more money was consequently spent upon it than was at first contemplated.

While the work of altering the building was in progress, the arrangement and classification of the library books were going on, for the most



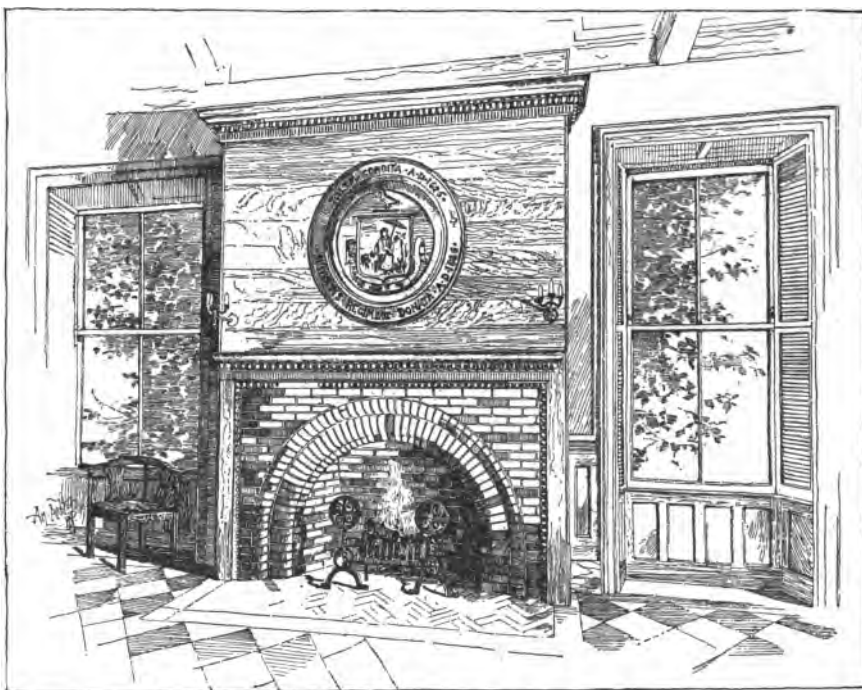
DELIVERY COUNTER.

part in rooms in the Kinsman block. Mr. F. P. Hill, the first librarian chosen, began the work, and it was finished under the direction of Mr. Gardner M. Jones, who took Mr. Hill's place from the time of the latter's resignation to take charge of a larger library at Newark, New Jersey. Upon the completion of the library building and removal of the books thereto, there were 11,212 volumes on the printed finding list. Of these, 2,220 were presented to the library by donors, and the others were purchased of Almy, Bigelow & Washburn, Salem. There were besides, 150 volumes, mostly reference books, which arrived too late

to be printed in the finding list. The later additions are stated in the reports from time to time.

The Salem Public Library is a three-story brick building, about 46 by 48 feet with sandstone trimmings and a small L in the rear. Over the front door are the words "Public Library." Scarcely any alterations were made in the exterior of the building; but the first, second, and third floors were entirely removed and rebuilt in a much stronger manner in order to enable them to carry the dead weight of books.

The first story consists of one great hall entered through a vestibule and divided in the centre by a counter with screen and spindle work

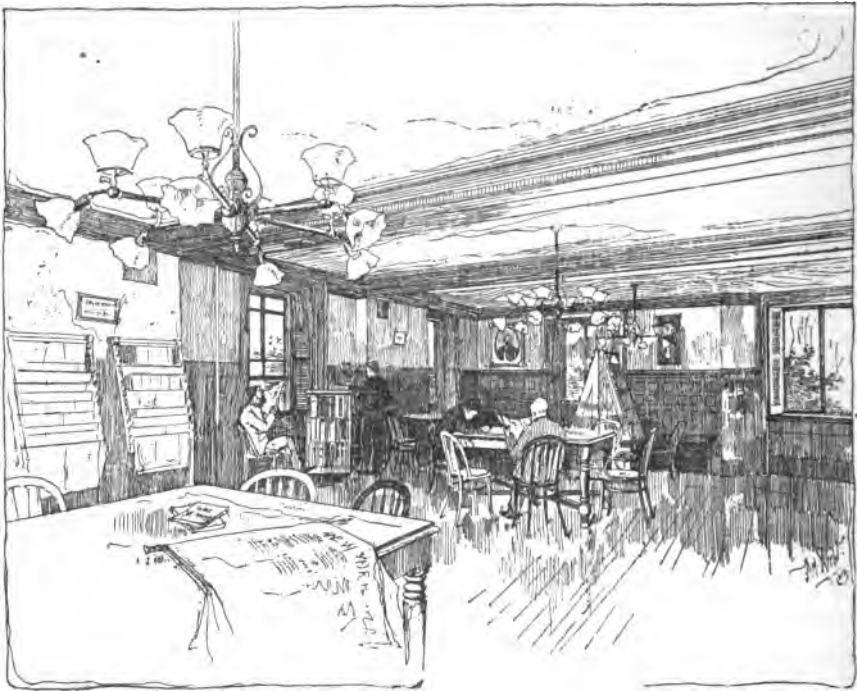


FIREPLACE IN MAIN HALL.

above, making the entrance half of the building a public lobby about 24 by 38 feet, all finished in oak, with a wainscot 3 feet 6 inches high, and tiled floor. Here the books are received and delivered over the counter. The rest of the floor is given up to stacking space and a small room for the use of the librarian. In the L there is a small room for cataloguing books. At one end of the main hall, on the chimney breast over the fireplace, is the city seal carved in oak; and at the other end a colonial twisted and carved staircase running up to the second floor. This hall is provided with table and seats of oak.

On the second floor is the general reading-room, about 36 by 42 feet, with a wainscot of oak, five feet high, painted walls, and fitted with oak furniture. There is also a special reference room, 17 by 26 feet, finished in ash, with bookcases running to the ceiling on all the walls, and a smaller room in the L for the use of the trustees.

The third floor, which is about 44 by 46 feet, is used for stacking space, and the two principal divisions are those rendered necessary by the two heavy trusses which support this floor. This floor is convenient for students and others who may wish to look up a subject and be some-



READING ROOM.

what retired in doing so. There is a large unfinished attic above this story which may be used for storage.

The basement, one-half of which is entirely above ground, is taken up with a janitor's room, two work rooms for binding and repairing books and a boiler and coal room.

Besides the front stairs, which are intended particularly for the use of the public, there is a wide flight of back stairs running from basement to attic, which would give easy exit in case of fire. For convenience in handling books, a lift runs through every story. The building

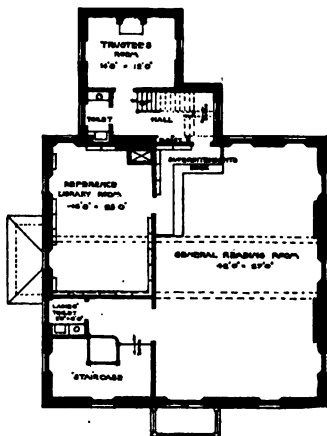
is lighted by electric light, but is also supplied with gas, and is heated by direct radiation from steam. It is also supplied with all incidental modern conveniences needed in such an institution.

The cost of alterations and repairs on the building was \$22,153.10, and \$1,836.13 was spent for furniture and fixtures.

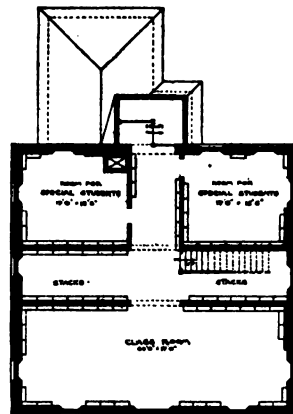
The architects were Andrews & Jaques of Boston (now Andrews, Jaques & Rantoul), whose assistants, Augustus N. Rantoul and John H. Benson, both of Salem, presented the first draft of plans made under the supervision of Andrews & Jaques. To the excellent work of the architects, contractors and their employés, were largely due the satisfactory results obtained in all the different departments of work throughout the building. A list of the contractors follows:—

Carpentry and cabinet work,	. . . . .	Hamilton & Balcomb.
Masonry and grounds,	. . . . .	J. J. & T. F. Mack.
Staircase,	. . . . .	Milton P. Locke & Son.
Steam heating,	} . . . . .	Lawrence E. Millea.
Plumbing,		
Gas piping and		
ventilation,		
Painting,	. . . . .	Thomas L. Norton.
Electric bells,	. . . . .	Charles Phelps.
Furniture and furnishings,	} . . . . .	J. L. Lougee.
		W. C. Packard & Co.
		H. M. Bixby.
		Hamilton & Balcomb.
All of Salem.		
Electric wiring,	. . . . .	Pettengill, Andrews & Co.
Library fittings,	. . . . .	Library Bureau.
Gas and electric fixtures,	. . . . .	MacKinney & Waterbury.
All of Boston.		

The illustrations herewith were made by the Helotype Printing Co. of Boston from photographs furnished by Chas. H. Harwood, Salem.



• SECOND FLOOR PLAN •

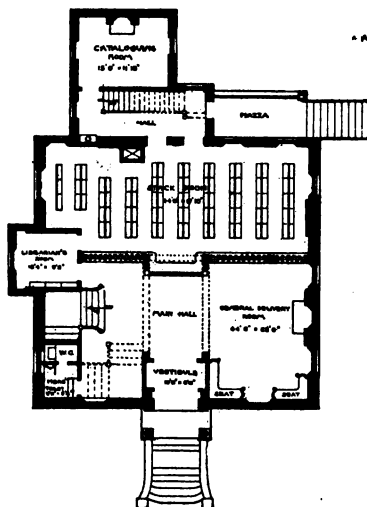


• THIRD FLOOR PLAN •

• THE SALEM PUBLIC LIBRARY

FORMERLY  
THE CAPT. BENTLEY HOUSE  
SALEM, MASS.

ALTERATIONS BY  
A. J. BENTLEY, ARCHT. & ENGINEER,  
BOSTON, MASS.  
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



• FIRST FLOOR PLAN •

BY-LAWS  
OF THE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE  
SALEM PUBLIC LIBRARY.

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ARTICLE I. OFFICERS.

The officers shall be a chairman, secretary and treasurer.

The mayor of the city shall be ex-officio chairman of the board.

The secretary shall keep a faithful record of the doings of the board, and shall have the custody of all documents except those relating to financial matters, and shall give due notice of all meetings of the board, and perform all other duties properly relating to his office. He shall have the power to call upon the librarian or library assistants for such clerical help as he may desire in the performance of his duty.

The treasurer shall have charge of the funds of the board and all documents relating thereto. He shall cause to be paid all bills approved by the board, and shall keep an accurate account of the receipts and expenditures, and make a report of the same to the board at the annual meeting or at any other time when called upon by the board so to do.

ARTICLE II. MEETINGS.

The regular meetings of the board shall be the second and fourth Friday of each month at 5 P.M., at the library room.

The second Friday of December of each year shall be the annual meeting; special meetings shall be called by the secretary by direction of the chairman or by request of any two trustees. Notices of special meetings shall state the object for which they are called, and no business shall be transacted at such meetings except such as is stated in the notice.

At all meetings four members shall constitute a quorum.

**ARTICLE III. COMMITTEES.**

The board shall choose, at the annual meeting, standing committees as follows, viz. :

Committee on finance, committee on administration, committee on books.

Each of these committees shall consist of three members, who shall serve for one year and until others are elected in their stead. They shall act under the direction of the board and shall report to the board from time to time, and all measures proposed by them shall be submitted to the board for approval.

The committee on finance, of which the mayor shall be ex-officio chairman, and the treasurer a member, shall have the management of the investment of the library funds, and revenues arising from any source. It shall audit all bills and the accounts of the treasurer and librarian and shall, under direction of the board, have the care of all the financial affairs of the library.

The committee on administration shall have charge, under direction of the board, of all matters pertaining to the operation of the library and reading-room, the repair, furnishing, heating, lighting and ventilation of the rooms or building, and the care of the grounds. It shall be its duty to see that all persons employed in the service of the library are faithful and prompt in the performance of their duties, and that the rules and regulations are properly enforced.

The committee on books shall, under the direction of the board, have control and supervision in all matters relating to the selection, purchase, exchange and binding of the books and periodicals; the sale and exchange of duplicates and of old magazines and papers not kept for filing and binding; the arrangement, printing, sale and disposition of catalogues and finding lists and of the statistics of circulation and of all matters relating to the stamps, plates, labels and printed forms in use in the library.

It shall be the duty of the committee to make an examination of the library from time to time, and to report upon the same at the annual meeting.

**ARTICLE IV. DUTIES OF LIBRARIAN.**

The duties of the librarian shall be as follows :

To take charge of the library and reading room, and be responsible for the care and safety of the books, and other public property contained therein.

To submit to the board of trustees, and to the proper committees, measures for securing the proper management and fullest efficiency of the library and reading room.

To obtain for the library the publication of libraries, library associations, and other bodies, whose proceedings and reports may afford information of value to the board.

To obtain from the proper bodies, public documents of every kind for the library.

To keep carefully arranged lists of all new books and publications (American and foreign) for the use of the board.

To prepare for the use of the board lists of books and periodicals required to complete sets, to fill out such departments as are deficient, to supply the place of books which have been lost.

To keep a list of all books or publications donated to the library, stating the name and residence of the donor, and the date when the donation was received.

To buy books under the direction of the committee on books.

To classify and arrange all books and publications, as soon as received, and to keep the same catalogued according to such plan or plans as may be approved by the board.

To report promptly all flagrant cases of theft, mutilations or injury of books and periodicals.

To exercise control over all employés of the board and to promptly report to the committee on administration any delinquency on the part of employés.

To keep exact and detailed accounts of all moneys received from fines and other sources, to report the same monthly to the board at the regular meeting, and pay over all moneys promptly to the treasurer as directed by the board.

To prepare a monthly report of all books that have been added to and lent from the library, and submit an annual report to the board on the second Friday of December.

To discharge such other duties as fall within the province of a librarian, and may from time to time be prescribed by the board. But in the performance of his duties as above specified no debt or liability of any kind shall be incurred by him without express authority from the board.

#### ARTICLE V. EMPLOYES.

The board shall appoint all employés, fix their salaries, define their duties, and retain them during its pleasure. If charges shall be preferred against any employé, he or she shall have the right to an investigation and to a hearing before the board.



## LIBRARY REGULATIONS.

## I.

The library will be open every day for the delivery of books (Sundays and legal holidays excepted) from 9 A. M. to 8 P. M. On Saturday the library will be open until 9 P. M.

## II.

Any resident of the city of Salem over twelve years of age shall be entitled to draw books from the library by signing an application and agreement, and complying with the conditions therein contained.

## III.

Each person entitled to draw books from the library will be supplied with a card inscribed with his or her name, residence, and register number.

This card must be presented whenever a book is taken, returned or renewed, and if lost it will not be replaced until seven days' after notice of the loss is given. Immediate notice of a change of residence must be given at the library. No borrower will be permitted to transfer his or her right to any other person, nor shall any book be loaned to any person not belonging to the household of the borrower.

## IV.

For teachers in public or private schools of good standing, teacher cards may be issued, one for each teacher, upon which six books at each time may be taken out for the use of their pupils. These books shall be upon subjects connected with the studies of the school. Teachers shall be responsible for all books so taken, and shall return any such book upon the written notification of the librarian that the book is desired by another person.

## V.

The holder of a card is entitled to draw only one volume at a time.

Books may be retained two weeks except those labelled "Seven days book," which cannot be retained more than one week and cannot be renewed. Books cannot be exchanged the same day they are taken out.

## VI.

Books of reference, elaborately illustrated books, and such others as may be unsuited for general circulation, can be used only in the library rooms.

Persons desiring books for use in the library may obtain them by filling out the slips prepared for that purpose.

## VII.

A fine of two cents a day shall be paid if a book is kept over time, and no other book will be delivered to the party incurring the fine till it is paid. When a book shall have been retained beyond the prescribed time a messenger will be sent for it, who shall have authority to collect the fine, and an additional fee of twenty cents for such messenger service.

## VIII.

Writing or marking in books is prohibited, and all injuries to books beyond reasonable wear shall be promptly adjusted to the satisfaction of the librarian.

If any borrower lose or materially injure a book, paper or magazine belonging to the library or reading room, he shall furnish another copy of the same or later edition, or pay the librarian's appraisalment at his option. If the book so lost or injured be part of a set he shall replace or pay for the entire set, and may thereupon receive the remaining volumes as his property.

## IX.

Any person abusing the privileges of the library, or violating the foregoing regulations shall be temporarily denied the use of the library, and such person may, in the discretion of the trustees, forfeit all right to further use of the library.

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## READING ROOM REGULATIONS.

## I.

The reading room will be open every week day from 9 A. M. to 10 P. M., and on Sunday from 2 P. M. to 8 P. M.

## II.

All persons above the age of twelve may have free access to the reading room during all regular hours, for the purpose of consulting the books, newspapers and periodicals.

## III.

Every person desiring books for use in the reading room, shall fill out the slips prepared for that purpose. Before leaving the room the borrower shall return such book or books to the attendant, and shall not under any circumstances take the same from the room.

## IV.

All conversation and all conduct inconsistent with quiet and order are strictly prohibited.

## V.

All persons violating any of the foregoing rules shall forfeit thereby all right to the use of the reading room.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS  
OF THE  
SALEM PUBLIC LIBRARY,

1889.

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TRUSTEES.

JOHN M. RAYMOND, Mayor, *ex-officio*.  
GEORGE R. EMMERTON, Elected Feb. 27, 1888. Died May 22, 1888.  
JAMES A. EMMERTON, " Feb. 27, 1888. " Dec. 31, 1888.  
CHARLES S. OSGOOD, " Feb. 27, 1888.  
NATHANIEL A. HORTON, " Feb. 27, 1888.  
GEORGE W. WILLIAMS, " Feb. 27, 1888.  
THOMAS F. HUNT, " Feb. 27, 1888.  
DAVID PINGREE, " July 5, 1888.  
JEREMIAH T. MAHONEY, " April 5, 1889.

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OFFICERS.

JOHN M. RAYMOND, Mayor, Chairman, *ex-officio*.  
CHARLES S. OSGOOD, Secretary.  
GEORGE W. WILLIAMS, Treasurer.

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COMMITTEES.

*On Finance*,—Messrs. RAYMOND, PINGREE and WILLIAMS.  
*On Administration*,—Messrs. HORTON, WILLIAMS and HUNT.  
*On Books*,—Messrs. HUNT, OSGOOD and MAHONEY.

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LIBRARIAN.

GARDNER M. JONES.

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ASSISTANTS.

MARIA A. BUFFUM, GERTRUDE C. SMITH,  
INEZ R. BLISS, WALTER N. DANIELS,  
LILLIAN F. DRESSER, ARTHUR C. PICKERING.

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JANITOR.

JOHN F. HADLEY.

UoF M

1870

